

**The Anglican-Old Catholic International Co-ordinating Council  
Internationaler Anglikanisch/Alt-Katholischer Koordinierender Rat  
(AOCICC)**

*Communiqué 2015*



Zurich, Switzerland, 30 May 2015

The Anglican-Old Catholic International Co-ordinating Council (AOCICC) met in Zurich, Switzerland, from 26 to 30 May 2015. The host of this meeting was the Old Catholic Church of Switzerland / Christkatholische Kirche der Schweiz. This was the third meeting of the Council under its current mandate.

The work of this meeting included:

- Reflecting on the nature and meaning of our communion
- Updating each other about developments within each Communion
- Briefing each other about developments in the bilateral and multilateral ecumenical relationships in which both Communion are engaged
- Finalising the text of a booklet, *Anglicans and Old Catholics together in Europe*, which introduces the faithful of both Communion to AOCICC's 2011 publication, *Belonging Together in Europe—a joint statement on aspects of ecclesiology and mission*  
<http://bit.ly/1FJSvle>
- Planning an Anglican-Old Catholic Youth Pilgrimage in 2017 to Echternach, Luxembourg, the site of the shrine of St Willibrord
- Designing a survey which will map existing cooperation between Anglicans and Old Catholics in specific locations
- Considering how to develop concrete proposals for the common mission of the Anglican and Old Catholic Churches on the European continent
- Preparing for the Council's meeting with Archbishop Joris Vercammen (Union of Utrecht of Old Catholic Churches), Bishop Robert Innes (Church of England, Diocese in Europe), and Bishop Pierre Whalon (The Episcopal Church, Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe) in 2016

A significant feature of the 2015 meeting of the Council was its intentional encounters with local church communities. The members of the Council visited St Andrew's Church (Anglican), the Augustinerkirche and the Christuskirche (Old Catholic), as well as the Grossmuenster and the Fraumuenster (Reformed). The Council met cantonal church leaders at an ecumenical dinner. The Council engaged with the Bishop of the Swiss Old Catholic Church, Dr Harald Rein, in a lively

dialogue on his vision of deepening the communion between Old Catholics and Anglicans in the local context of Switzerland – a discussion in which the Anglican Archdeacon of Switzerland, the Venerable Peter Potter, participated.

The Council prayed the Daily Office together according to the Anglican and Old Catholic traditions, engaged in Bible study, and celebrated the Eucharist together in St Andrew's Church and the Augustinerkirche along with members of the local congregations.

The Council is grateful to the Old Catholic Church of Switzerland and especially to the Parish of Zurich for its generous hospitality and use of its parish centre. It particularly records its appreciation to the Revd Lars Simpson.

The Council will meet again in Belgium, 7–11 June 2016, hosted by the Anglican Communion.

For further information, please contact the Revd Lars Simpson ([lars.simpson@christkatholisch.ch](mailto:lars.simpson@christkatholisch.ch)) or Canon John Gibaut at the Anglican Communion Office ([john.gibaut@anglicancommunion.org](mailto:john.gibaut@anglicancommunion.org))

Websites: [www.utrechterunion.org](http://www.utrechterunion.org) and [www.anglicancommunion.org](http://www.anglicancommunion.org)

Members of the Council:

*Anglicans*

The Right Revd Michael Burrows, Co-chair  
The Revd Jennifer Adams-Massmann  
The Right Revd David Hamid  
Mrs Jennifer Knudsen  
The Revd Tony Litwinski

The Revd Canon Dr John Gibaut, Co-secretary  
The Revd Neil Vigers, Anglican Communion Office

*Old Catholics*

The Right Revd Dr Dirk Jan Schoon, Co-chair  
The Revd Professor Dr Angela Berlis  
The Revd Dr Heinz Lederleitner  
The Revd Prof Dr David HOLETON (unable to attend)  
The Revd Lars Simpson, Co-Secretary