

Christians easily become victims

Associate Secretary General of the World Alliance spoke at the Lutheran Convention

Translated from an [idea](#) press release

Freedom of religion is a fundamental human right. Where it is violated, other human rights are also in a bad state. This view was proposed by Thomas Schirmmacher (Bonn), Associate Secretary General of the World Evangelical Alliance, on November 1st in Wuppertal.

He spoke at the autumn meeting of the Lutheran Convention in Rhineland on the issue of “Persecution and Discrimination of Christians”. There is no country in the world where religious minorities are oppressed but the human rights situation apart from that is “otherwise in order”. Christians worldwide are currently more often affected by violent oppression than members of other religions. One reason for this is that most of the former “Christian countries” have developed into secular democracies. “Precisely because Christians no longer have a Christian state on their side, they become easy victims of violent religious currents and states that despise human rights”, Schirmmacher said. The democratic countries are therefore called upon to also stand up for the protection of persecuted Christians, “because otherwise in the end nobody will do it”, said Schirmmacher.



The [Lutheran Convention in Rhineland](#) was founded in 1936 as an opposition to the National Socialist “German Christians”. Its concern today is to represent the Lutheran confession within the Rhineland Church.



Thomas Schirmmacher with the board of the Lutheran Covent © BQ/Warnecke