

**His All Holiness, Bartholomew I, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch, Turkey**

Spiritual leader of approximately 300 million Orthodox Christians world-wide. A citizen of Turkey, Patriarch Bartholomew's personal experience provides him a unique perspective on the continuing dialogue among the Christian, Islamic and Jewish worlds.

He works to advance reconciliation among Catholic, Muslim and Orthodox communities, such as in former Yugoslavia. His efforts to promote human rights and religious tolerance, together with his pioneering work for international peace and environmental protection, have placed him at the forefront of global visionaries as an apostle of love, peace and reconciliation. In 1997, he was awarded the Gold Medal of the United States Congress.

Dr. Arthur Lyon Dahl, Switzerland

Coordinator of the UNEP/University of Geneva Environmental Diplomacy Programme and President of the International Environment Forum. Retired Deputy Assistant Executive Director of UNEP. He represented the Baha'i International Community at the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment (1972), was in the Secretariat of the Rio Earth Summit (1992), and participated in the World Summit on Religions and Conservation (Windsor, 1995) and the World Parliament of Religions (Barcelona, 2004). Member of the governing board of the European Baha'i Business Forum. His books include "Unless and Until: A Baha'i Focus on the Environment" and "The Eco Principle: Ecology and Economics in Symbiosis".

**Ms. Liza Higgins-Zogib, Switzerland**

Manager, People and Conservation at WWF International and leader of the "poverty and conservation" initiative. She is strengthening WWF's work and position on indigenous peoples' issues. Liza is particularly interested in the role of the sacred/spirit in the conservation of biodiversity and she co-authored the WWF/ARC publication "Beyond Belief: linking faiths and protected areas to support biodiversity conservation". Her expertise also includes protected area management issues. Aside her official duties with WWF Liza is studying for a doctoral degree in Yoga Philosophy and Meditation with the International Vedic Hindu University, and is a practitioner and teacher of Raja Yoga.

Mr. Fazlun M. Khalid, United Kingdom

Founding director of the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES), former Director of Training for the Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC). Bearing witness in his work to the interconnection of racism, poverty, debt, and environmental degradation, Khalid recognized the necessity for Muslims to contribute to contemporary environmental thinking and efforts to confront the global environmental crisis. IFEES was founded in the mid 1980s in order to articulate these aspirations and convictions.

**Dr. Claude Martin, Switzerland**

Chancellor of the International University in Geneva, former Director General of WWF International (1993-2005), board member of Precious Woods, the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), several WWF National Organisations, and various other environmental organizations. Honorary Advisor of WWF International, chairman of the International Sustainability Innovation Council of Switzerland - ISIS, and the chairman of the Roundtable on Sustainable Biofuels (RSB) - both initiatives of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH/EPF). He was awarded the "Commander of the Golden Arc" by the late Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands and is a Fellow of the World Academy of Art and Science.

Dr. Peter Pavlovic, Belgium

Study Secretary of the Church and Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches (CEC) in Brussels, a fellowship of some 120 Orthodox, Protestant, Anglican and Old Catholic Churches from all countries of Europe, Secretary of the European Christian Environmental Network. He holds a university degree in physics and theology and is an ordained minister of the Lutheran church. In his current position he works on promoting the dialogue among the churches in Europe and dialogue of the churches with the European political institutions such as the European Union and Council of Europe. The focus of his work is the relation between churches, religions and politics as well as protection of the environment and globalisation.

**Prof. Dr. Bron Taylor, USA**

President of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture and editor of the Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture. As Samuel S. Hill Ethics Professor at the University of Florida, he has taught in the world's first graduate program focusing on Religion and Nature. He has written widely about environmental movements and environmentalism globally. His publications include the multi-volume and award winning "Encyclopedia of Religion and Nature", "Ecological Resistance Movements: The Global Emergence of Radical and Popular Environmentalism" and "Affirmative Action at Work". His next book, "Dark Green Religion", will appear soon. He is the host of www.religionandnature.com, which is a gateway to the above-mentioned initiatives, research, and teaching.

Forum Site:

Aula of the University of Freiburg, KG1-Building, Werthmannplatz 3, 79085 Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany

Forum Language:

English

Forum Fee:

There is no fee for attendees, coffee and refreshments are complimentary

Forum Registration:

Before 11 April 2008, by sending an email to meg_forum@ifp.uni-freiburg.de, there will be no confirmation upon registration

Forum Website:

www.meg.uni-freiburg.de

Accommodation:

To be arranged by attendees themselves, links to hotels at www.stadtverwaltung.uni-freiburg.de

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**M.Sc. Environmental Governance (MEG) –
Leadership for Sustainable Environments**

The MEG Programme was established in 2005 at the University of Freiburg to train leaders at an academic level who are able to reconcile different social perspectives through the integration of market, state and civil society regulation modes as a basis for sustainable development – for any environmental resource, at any scale from local to global, and in any context worldwide.

A maximum of 30 students are selected each year in a highly competitive procedure based on criteria of excellence and geographical representation (industrialised countries, countries in transition, developing countries, as well as geographic regions).

For more information:

www.meg.uni-freiburg.de

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2008 FREIBURG FORUM ON ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

THE ROLE OF RELIGION IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

18 - 19 April 2008 | Freiburg im Breisgau | Germany

Students of the international M.Sc. Program Environmental Governance organize the Freiburg Forum on Environmental Governance as part of their training at the University of Freiburg. Each year the annual Forum deals with a current, internationally relevant environmental governance issue integrating market, state and civil society coordination mechanisms to tackle existing and potential environmental crises. The general aim is to foster discussion and to plant the seeds of sustainable development and wise leadership in a new generation of global citizens, namely students, junior staff from NGOs, administrations, enterprises, but also senior personnel and the wider public.

2008 Forum topic:

»THE ROLE OF RELIGION IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE«

While environmental governance has received widespread attention in recent years, the role of religion in this context is yet to be explored – from its influence on individual actors to shaping cultural frameworks.

On the one hand, religion can provide guidance towards sustainable actions. The discursive role of religions can influence societal beliefs, values and norms that consequently can change individual behaviours. On the other hand, the role of religion and religious stakeholders in collective actions can be of crucial importance. Religious institutions in participatory processes can provide the public sphere with tools to grasp moral dimensions of environmental concerns. Finally, in collaborative policy making processes religious affiliation can be an obstacle or a catalyst for achieving agreements.

The aim of the 2008 Freiburg Forum on Environmental Governance is to initiate a resilient dialogue across boundaries, disciplines and sectors encouraging innovative perspectives and novel approaches.

A forum reader featuring students' background papers is available to participants. It is intended to deepen the understanding of and facilitate access to the 2008 Forum topic.

Welcome!

Student Class 2006, M.Sc. Environmental Governance:

- Aziza Akhatova**, B.A. International Relations, Uzbekistan
- Ana Bachurova**, B.Sc. Env. Resource Management, Bulgaria
- Elena Batkova**, Dipl. World Economics, Russia
- You Bin**, M.Sc. Forest Economics, China
- Paulina Campos**, Bachelor Business Administration, Costa Rica
- McKenna Davis**, B.Sc. Natural Resources, Sociology, USA
- Ludmila Oliveira Diniz**, Bachelor International Relations, Brasil
- Robert Elsworth**, B.A. Political Science, United Kingdom
- Flávia Franca**, Bachelor Environmental Engineering, Brasil
- Chen Jiazhi**, B.Sc. Agro Economics and Mgmt, China
- Sun-Ae Kim**, B.A. Architectural Studies, Korea
- Kerstin Knuth**, B.Sc. International Forest Ecosystem Management, Germany
- Ricardo Meirelles de Carvalho**, Bachelor Business Administration, Brasil
- Jelly Mae Moring**, B.A. Sociology, Philippines
- Seirra Marie Mulcare**, B.A. International Relations, USA
- Swati Negi**, M.Sc. Forestry (Economics and Mgmt), India
- Irene Papst**, M.Sc. Applied Geosciences, Austria
- Javier Raña Kanacri**, M.Sc. Civil Industrial Engineering, Chile
- Mari Roald Bern**, B.Sc. Economy & Resource Mgmt, Norway
- Juan Carlos Sanchez**, Master in Business Law, Costa Rica
- Saran Selenge**, B.A. Political Science, Mongolia
- Laura Singleton**, B.A. Political Science, History, Ireland
- Jodi Lynn Thomas**, B.A. History, International Affairs, USA
- Joseph Wladkowski**, B.A. Sociology, German Area Studies, USA

FRIDAY, APRIL 18		SATURDAY, APRIL 19	
17.00 - 17.15	Prorector Prof. Dr. Jürgen Rühle University of Freiburg Welcome	9.30 - 9.45	MEG Student Class of 2006 Morning welcome and speaker intro
17.15 - 17.30	MEG Student Class of 2006 Introduction into the 2008 Forum Topic: The Role of Religion in Environmental Governance	9.45 - 10.00	IMPULSE ROUND 1 –AN ETHICS PERSPECTIVE Prof. Dr. Bron Taylor , USA University of Florida Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture
17.30 - 17.45	His All Holiness, Bartholomew I , Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch (video-message) Personal Greeting to the 2008 Freiburg Forum	10.00 - 10.15	Dr. Arthur Lyon Dahl , Switzerland University of Geneva Environmental Diplomacy Programme President of the International Environment Forum
17.45 - 18.30	Dr. Claude Martin , Switzerland Chancellor of the International University Geneva Keynote address: Religion and Environmental Governance	10.15 - 10.30	Mr. Fazlun Khalid , UK Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences
18.30 - 19.15	Ms. Liza Higgins-Zogib , Switzerland WWF People and Conservation Program Beyond Belief – Sacred Sites as Harbingers of Nature Conservation	10.30 - 10.45	Dr. Peter Pavlovic , Belgium European Christian Environmental Network Conference of European Churches
starting at 20.00	Invitation-only gathering of MEG students with speakers and invited guests	10.45 - 11.45	Expert roundtable discussion with audience input Arthur Lyon Dahl, Fazlun Khalid, Claude Martin, Peter Pavlovich, Bron Taylor moderated by MEG student class
	→ Moderation on both days: MEG-Student Class 2006	11.45 - 12.30	Snacks and refreshments
		12.30 - 12.45	IMPULSE ROUND 2 – CAPACITY BUILDING Mr. Fazlun Khalid , UK
		12.45 - 13.00	Dr. Peter Pavlovic , Belgium
		12.45 - 13.00	Prof. Dr. Bron Taylor , USA
		13.00 - 13.15	Dr. Arthur Lyon Dahl , Switzerland
		13.15 - 13.30	Expert roundtable discussion with audience input
		13.30 - 14.15	Dr. Claude Martin: Closing statement
		14.15 - 14.30	Outlook and farewell