



World Communion of Reformed Churches

Called to communion, committed to justice

Persevere in Your Witness

Invitation to Name Delegates to the 2025 General Council

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.

—Hebrews 12:1 (NRSV)

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Following our letter of June 2023 inviting your church to the 27th General Council in Chiang Mai, Thailand, it is our pleasure to inform you of some details and deadlines for delegations:

1. The dates of the 27th General Council are 14 to 23 October 2025. Participants are expected to arrive in Chiang Mai by the evening of 13 October and to depart from Chiang Mai any time after 3:00 pm on 23 October.
2. Please name your delegates as soon as possible. This will help in our planning. We should receive the names of your delegations by 31 July 2024. As you name your delegates, please adhere to the constitutionally-mandated categories in the box below. Please note by the name whether the person is male or female, for any young person indicate “born after 10 October 1995,” and feel free to use titles to denote whether the person is ordained or not.

According to the WCRC Constitution, the number of voting delegates is based on the size of a member denomination:

Up to four voting delegates for churches with up to 300,000 members
Up to six voting delegates for churches from 300,001 to 1,000,000 members
Up to eight voting delegates for churches with 1,000,001 or more members

In addition, each delegation must be gender balanced, no more than half may be clergy, and one member must be thirty-years-old or younger when the Council is convened (for those delegations with multiple people).

Please send your delegate names to gc2025@wrc.eu, by post to: World Communion of Reformed Churches, Knochenhauerstr. 42, 30159 Hannover, Germany, or by fax: +49 511 8973 8311.

3. Registration fees are 500 euros per person for delegates who are not subsidized and 300 euros for delegates who are subsidized. In addition, delegates who are subsidized have to each make a contribution of 700 euros (for a combined total of 1000 euros).
4. Travel costs will be borne by each non-subsidized delegate. Travel costs for subsidized delegates will be fully covered. Note that this does not include costs for visa fees and home country ground transportation costs.
5. While the deadline for applying for subsidies is 31 December 2024, it will be prudent to make this application much earlier. Therefore, we encourage those churches which apply for



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subsidies to do so in this same period in which you are naming your delegates between now and 31 July 2024.

6. The costs of accommodation and breakfast are as follows:
 - a. For non-subsidized delegates: Single room and breakfast is 480 euros for a person staying for 10 days and 528 euros per person for 11 days.
 - b. For non-subsidized delegates: Double rooms (for persons willing to share room with another delegate), the room and breakfast will be 240 euros per person staying for 10 days and 264 euros for those staying for 11 days.
 - c. For subsidized delegates: Single room and breakfast will have a surcharge of 240 euros for those staying for 10 days and 264 euros per person for 11 days.
 - d. For subsidized delegates: Double rooms (for persons willing to share room with another delegate), the room and breakfast will be fully covered with no extra charge to the delegate.

7. The cost of other meals (lunch and dinner plus two coffee breaks):
 - a. For non-subsidized delegates, the cost will be 320 euros per person for the duration of the Council. Extra meals taken with effect from the evening meal of 23 October will be the responsibility of the delegate.
 - b. For a subsidized delegate, these costs will be covered by the subsidy package.

Postponed a year due to the COVID pandemic, the 2025 General Council comes in a year of significance for the Communion, the 150th anniversary of our founding as the "Alliance of the Reformed Churches throughout the World holding the Presbyterian System." We look forward to marking this anniversary while also moving into a post-pandemic world in which the challenges before us are as great as ever.

Please find ways of including the General Council's theme, "Persevere in Your Witness" (inspired by Hebrews 12:1), in your church's programme for this year and next year.

Please arrange for members of your church to join in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the WCRC 19 October, 2025 in Chiang Mai. There will be a possibility for people not in Chiang Mai to join online. This celebration will continue in all congregations of member churches of the WCRC on Sunday, 26 October 2025 (Reformation Sunday).

We are grateful to God for your commitment to the Communion and ask that you keep our work and especially the preparations for the 2025 General Council in your prayers.

The latest information on the 2025 General Council can be found here: wrc.ch/gc2025

Blessings,

Setri Nyomi
Interim General Secretary

Najla Kassab
President