

Webinar: Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination in the Pacific

Monday 2nd December at 9 AM CEST at <https://fuze.me/47834239>

The Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA) of the World Council of Churches (WCC) is presenting a webinar on *Racism, Xenophobia and Discrimination in the Pacific*. This webinar is part of the WCC Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace (PJP) 2019 thematic focus on Racism.

Mr Peter Prove, CCIA Director, will be moderating the webinar.

SPEAKERS (alphabetical order):

Rev. James Bhagwan is the General Secretary of the Pacific Conference of Churches. He is an ordained minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji. He is a graduate of the Pacific Theological College (Suva) and Methodist Theological University (Seoul). Rev Bhagwan worked extensively in the media before joining the ministry. His areas of advocacy are climate justice - with particular emphasis on the ocean - gender equality, self-determination ecumenism and interreligious dialogue.



Rev. Dr Cliff Bird is a minister of the United Church in Solomon Islands. He now works as a volunteer in his church following many years of ecumenical engagement in the region and beyond. Most recently, he was Mission Secretary Pacific for Council for World, Regional Coordinator for UnitingWorld in the Pacific, and was senior lecturer and head of the Department of Theology and Ethics at the Pacific Theological College. Cliff graduated with a PhD at Charles Sturt University in Australia in 2008 and has a background in Economic. Apart from theology, he loves to fish and strum his guitar and sing away – both very natural therapies!

Rev. Dr Seforosa Carroll is a Fiji born Rotuman who spent her formative years growing up in Lautoka, Fiji. These formative experiences continually inform Sef's theological reflections on interfaith, cross-cultural relationships, gender and culture from a diasporic perspective of a migrant who calls Australia one of her homes. Sef is a CTI Fellow and a resident member of the 2017-2018 Inquiry into Religion and Migration at the Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, a Research Fellow of the Public and Contextual Theology Research Center (PaCT), Charles Sturt University, Australia and visiting lecturer at the School of Theology, Charles Sturt University. Sef formerly worked with UnitingWorld as a theological researcher and facilitating church partner relationships in Australia and the Pacific.



Ms Elvira Rumkabu is an indigenous Papuan woman who is based in Jayapura, Papua province. She got her Master's degree from The Australian National University. She is a lecturer in international relations department, University of Cenderawasih which is based in Papua. Her areas of expertise are Papua conflict resolution, social change, as well as gender, peace and security. Currently, she actively participates in an Academics Forum for Papua Peace (FAPD). This forum was established by Indonesian lecturers to initiate conflict resolution and peace building in Papua. Besides, she is also an activist with Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council), which is a Papuan indigenous rights organization. She has been invited as speaker in several national and international forums.



Rev. Nikotemo Sopepa is an ordained minister of the Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu (Congregational Christian Church of Tuvalu). He is currently the Mission Secretary in the Pacific for the Council for World Mission. He has worked widely with the Pacific churches on addressing issues of injustices in the region. He is also a PhD candidate at the Pacific Theological College, writing on the need to reinterpret the doctrine of the Providence of God in the wake of global climate crisis.



Ms TAIRUA Tiaremaohi, 28 years old, is from MAOHI NUI (French Polynesia) located in the Pacific island; she lives in the island called MOOREA. She is the vice secretary of the YMCA in the MAOHI PROTESTANT CHURCH. She had the privilege and an honour of representing the MAOHI PROTESTANT CHURCH, as a youth active member, at the United Nations at 3 occasions concerning the issue of French Nuclear Testing.



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