

Synod Decision
The process of Church and society reconciliation

1. The Synod Presidency should provide information in open letter format to the elders' board of congregations, and the directors of church-run institutions concerning the purpose of exploring the past and the establishment and task of the Fact-finding Committee in order to request support from the national Church in the process of exploring the past according to the relevant Synod decisions.
2. The Synod declares 2011 (3×7, which means the 21st year after the political changes) the first year in a seven-year cycle of reconciliation and appeasement.
3. The Synod suggests that one Sunday a year, between 23 October to 4 November and additionally during the memorial worship of the 1956 revolution, be a time to take responsibility for the sins of the past and reconciliation. The Theology and Study Committee, with the help of the pastoral journal *Truth and Life*, supports this task by sharing meditations or Bible studies and prayers in order to shape the worship services.
4. The Synod calls upon the Church community, that from 2011 the subject should be processed with the help of professional lecturers on a presbytery and church district level of study work, in the framework of pastor and elder training, and also in the field of congregational study work.
5. The Synod asks church-run higher education institutions to have at least one optional course every year about past exploration and reconciliation.
6. The sections of the Doctoral Collegium should add to their agenda: theological questions of exploring the past and reconciliation, review and clarification of the relevant heritage of reformed theology and its current effects. Additionally, the Doctoral Collegium must report to the Synod community and the Fact-finding and Evaluation Committee.
7. Prior to selecting pastoral and secular offices, before office renewals, and also before selecting the leader positions of church-run institutions, candidates have the opportunity to ask the Fact-finding and Evaluation Committee whether data about themselves exists in the state security services archives or other archives, which could affect their credible practicing of a leadership position in the future.
8. In the light of continued familiarity and sharing of the Fact-finding and Evaluation Committee's research results, living out the reconciliation and appeasement in Sunday worship and morally engaging church members in the service of reconciliation must come to pass.
9. As reconciliation and appeasement must always be a part of the Church, reconciliation is needed in every 7 year period in order to become familiar with the results and to identify and accept contemporary societal and social sins.
10. Taking into consideration the work of the Theology and Study Committee, it is important for the Synod to cooperate with the Synod Legal and Church Constitutional Committee and the Fact-finding and Evaluation Committee regarding their timetables and specific responsibilities.

(Zs. – 100/201.11.18.)

18 November 2010, Budapest

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