Anglican Communion Office



Communiqué

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR ANGLICAN-ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL DIALOGUE

Boston, USE. October 2024.



In the name of the Triune God and with the blessing and guidance of our Churches, the International Commission for Anglican–Orthodox Theological Dialogue (ICAOTD) met in Boston from the 4th to the 11th of October 2024, at the invitation of the Huffington Ecumenical Institute at Hellenic College Holy Cross and its Executive Director, Archdeacon John Chryssavgis.

The members of the Commission are grateful for the generous hospitality and welcome received from His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and the community of Hellenic College Holy Cross. The Commission was also graciously received at special events and receptions by Metropolitan Methodios of Boston (Greek Orthodox Archdiocese), Bishop Alan Gates (Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts), Bishop John of Worcester and New England (Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese), and Dr. Demetrios Katos (President of Hellenic College Holy Cross). The final evening



concluded with an extraordinary visit by His Holiness Catholicos Aram I of the Holy See of Cilicia of the Armenian Apostolic Church.

The 50th anniversary of the Anglican–Orthodox Theological Commission occurred in 2023 and was celebrated during the plenary in Boston with a special public symposium and reception at the Maliotis Cultural Center of Hellenic College Holy Cross. Members of the Commission gave an overview of the history and development of the Dialogue that included individual introductions to each of the seven Agreed Statements issued since 1973.

Building on previous agreed statements, particularly the 2015 Statement on Christian anthropology, the Commission endorsed a new agreed statement *Organ Donation: A Hope-Filled Gift.* The Commission agreed to prepare a special publication to mark the 50th anniversary of the Commission, outlining its history and achievements.

Initial papers were received on the subjects 'The Mission of the Church in Today's World', from both Anglican and Orthodox perspectives, as well as on 'Spiritual Formation in the Anglican Tradition'. These papers provide a framework for the Commission to prepare an agreed statement about Christian repentance, formation and discipleship as well as mission and witness in response to the challenges of the contemporary world.

The work of the Commission was undergirded by daily prayer and worship. Members of the Commission attended the Sunday morning celebration of the Orthodox Divine Liturgy at St Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Weston and Vespers at the Chapel of Hellenic College Holy Cross. Anglican members celebrated the Holy Eucharist daily. The Commission prayed together for the peace of the world especially in the Middle East and in Eastern Europe.

The Commission next meets in 2025 in the Cathedral City of St Davids in Wales, hosted by the Anglican Communion.

Members of the Commission present at the meeting:

The Rt Revd Michael Lewis

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & the Middle East Anglican Co-Chairman

His Eminence Metropolitan Athenagoras of Belgium Ecumenical Patriarchate Orthodox Co-Chairman

Representatives of the Orthodox Church

His Eminence Metropolitan Serafim of Zimbabwe and Angola Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa

The Very Revd Professor Dr Archimandrite Calinic Berger Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East



The Very Revd Professor Dr Protopresbyter George Dion Dragas

Patriarchate of Jerusalem

Professor Dr Bogdan Lubardić

Patriarchate of Serbia

His Eminence Metropolitan Nifon of Târgovişte

Patriarchate of Romania

The Very Revd Professor Dr Protopresbyter Giorgi Zviadadze

Patriarchate of Georgia

The Very Revd Archimandrite Dimitrios Kyriakides

Church of Cyprus

Emeritus Professor Dr Miltiadis Konstantinou

Church of Greece

Dr Nathan Hoppe

Church of Albania

The Very Revd Dr Protopresbyter Christos B Christakis

Ecumenical Patriarchate

Co-Secretary

Representatives of the Anglican Communion

The Most Revd Dr Phillip Aspinall

The Anglican Church of Australia

The Revd Dr Christopher Beeley

The Episcopal Church

The Revd Marc Billimoria

The Church of Ceylon

The Revd Canon Philip Hobson OGS

The Anglican Church of Canada

The Rt Revd Dr Humberto Maiztegui Gonçalves

The Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil

The Very Revd Dr Sarah Rowland Jones

The Church in Wales

Dr Christopher Wells

Anglican Communion Office Director of Unity, Faith and Order & Co-Secretary

The Revd Neil Vigers

Anglican Communion Office

Programme Executive