

Agreement

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Agreement

The Old Catholic Churches united in the Union of Utrecht, represented by the Most Reverend Joris Vercammen, Archbishop of Utrecht and President of the International Old Catholic Bishops' Conference, and

the Church of Sweden, represented by the Most Reverend Antje Jackelén, Archbishop of Uppsala,

do hereby agree to acknowledge the communion of our churches, on the basis of our dialogue report: "Utrecht and Uppsala – on the Way to Communion".

We therefore acknowledge:

1. that each other's churches realize the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church of Jesus Christ;
2. that variant traditions in our churches, be they structural, liturgical, theological or disciplinary, do not prevent them from being part of the continuation of the apostolic tradition through the centuries but manifest a basic unity in diversity;
3. that each other's churches have a rich liturgical and eucharistic life, an unbroken episcopal structure, a deep commitment to the visible unity of the church and therefore to the ecumenical movement, and an open and critical attitude to changing values in society;
4. that there is a solid foundation on a spiritual as well as institutional level which enables future relationships between our churches and that our common faith and mission provide opportunities to support each other, either in Europe or through our common contacts on other continents.

We commit ourselves:

5. to regard baptized members of all these churches as members of their own, in accordance with regulations in force;
6. to welcome one another's members to receive sacramental and other pastoral ministrations;
7. to share a common life in mission and service, to pray for and with one another, and to share resources;

8. to welcome persons ordained in the Church of Sweden or in one of the Churches in the Union of Utrecht, to serve in any of our churches, by invitation and in accordance with any regulations which may be in force, in the receiving church without re-ordination;
9. to invite one another's bishops to participate in the laying-on of hands at the ordination of bishops;
10. to encourage consultations of representatives of our churches, and to facilitate learning and exchange of ideas and information in theological and pastoral matters; as well as exchange of students;
11. to invite observers from each other's churches to major events;
12. to encourage cooperation between Old Catholic and Church of Sweden parishes wherever possible.

This Agreement comes into force immediately after being signed by the Archbishop of Uppsala and the Archbishop of Utrecht.

Done in Uppsala Cathedral, this 23rd day of November 2016.

[Signatures]