THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

A Communion of Churches

lutheranworld.org

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Further information
Rev. Arni Svanur Danielsson
The Lutheran World Federation
Tel. +41 78 929 9686
Email asd@lutheranworld.org

LWF GENERAL SECRETARY AWARDED ST HENRY'S CROSS

Highest honour of Finnish church awarded for ecumenical work

GENEVA, Switzerland – The General Secretary of The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Rev Dr Martin Junge, was awarded the St. Henry's cross by the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland on 2 June 2018 in Turku Archdiocesan House, Finland. He received the award for his leadership in shaping the LWF's ecumenical relations, a strategy promoting gender equality and youth participation, and the LWF's ongoing commitment to support forcibly displaced people worldwide.

"Martin Junge is a strong ecumenical leader of values, whose work and representation as the voice of global Lutheranism has given special support to the work and positioning of local churches," said outgoing Finnish Archbishop Kari Mäkinen who presented the award.

"I am grateful for this honor and see the award as recognition of the work of the whole LWF, of our ecumenical engagement and commitment to justice, peace and reconciliation," General Secretary Junge said, accepting the award.

The St. Henry's cross is the highest honor and accolade of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, given to Finns or to foreigners of ecumenical merit, who have promoted relations with the sister churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland, for significant humanitarian work undertaken abroad or as recognition of mission work.

Martin Junge was ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile in 1989. Between 2000 and 2010 Junge served as LWF Area Secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean in the Department for Mission and Development. Since 2010 he has served as General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation.

The Lutheran World Federation is a global communion of 145 churches in the Lutheran tradition, representing over 74 million Christians in 98 countries.

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