



Verband Evangelischer  
Diakonen-, Diakoninnen-  
und Diakonatsgemeinschaften  
in Deutschland e.V.

Deacon Heidi Albrecht  
Berlin, 03.02.2015

## **VEDD-Report for DRAE 2015**

Dear sisters!

The VEDD-report starts with two important events in the year 2013:

- DIAKONIA in Berlin
- the 100-years-jubilee as association VEDD

The meaning of DIAKONIA in Berlin you reflected in the conference last year. I know!

But it is important to tell you, that the VEDD was engaged in this assembly with great pleasure. It was a great experience, to see and to feel the great movement of DIAKONA in Berlin. It was an opener for this spirit for Deacons. In the walk towards the organizations "Kaiserswerther und Zehlendorfer Verband" a good step. We did something together! God's Holy Spirit was singing, praying und discussing in and between us.

In our Organization we are stronger engaged in our 22 communities in relationship to the regional church and "Diakonieorganisation". This is part of our history. With the 100-year-julilee we started a new movement to develop strategy-steps to join us together.

The issues are called:

- the diaconal profile in the diaconal church
- public relations for our profession and vocation
- networking to find the common themes and interesting's to develop the necessary competences together – in our own communities and in relationship with the „bound in Diakonat“ (Verbände im Diakonat ViD)
- role of the leader in the communities for the future
- qualification – the double qualification as a Diaconal appointment in the church –  
> the EKD Evangelical Church in Germany published a first result to generalize rules
- the responsibility of the Diaconalcenters in their communities

To work on these issues is a process during four untill five years. The communities are invited to work with their most important topics. In addition with the other organizations, which have a similar subject area.

Last November during our general assembly, we worked with the outcomes of the 5th studie of the Evangelical Church in Germany to the evolution of their members. As a result it is well-known, that we have a good bonding of the religious persons in the German Evangelical Church. But the kids and young people we lost und we will lose more when they are going adults. Nevertheless it is a major challenge for us to get young people and students interested in our professions.

This challenge is the basic for the future and now we have to find sustainable ways to reform the communities for it. In conclusion this is our „strategy-process“ until 2018 and we are hopeful to create a new movement to get „profile-center“ for diaconal working in a diaconal church.

Back to the jubilee: 100 years VEDD.

We celebrated it in Hannover in Evangelical Church in Germany. We wanted to attract attention in the center of the Evangelical church... Nonetheless we presented us with a book. It is called: „In Zeit-Brüchen“.... Perhaps the best translation would be „time-cuts“ – the second 50 years VEDD from 1945 till 2013.

The plot reflects the different ways and challenges in eastern and western Germany after World War Two. Moreover the great pleasure to grow together again after the fall of the wall.

At the same time Christian Klein resigned as manager of the VEDD and Heidi Albrecht began this work. We had a wonderful church service and got bless of God for our ways. Our sisters and brothers organized a wonderful celebration to say good bye and THANK YOU for Christian Klein and welcome Heidi Albrecht.

So we go on to do what to do. We have very active chairmen and chairwomen and so I am very hopeful, that we making good progress together in our VEDD-communities. We hope and confide in God, that he blesses us.

Many greatings from VEDD and Berlin to you!  
I´m look forward to see you!

Heidi Albrecht