



The Near East School of Theology and the Studies in the Middle East Program (SiMO) are pleased to invite you to a

Public lecture and reception on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of SiMO - Erfurt, June 6th, 2025



Christian Life and Academic Partnership in the Face of Multiple Crises and Polarization

Many thanks to:











In 2025, the SiMO study program will commemorate 25 years of its existence.

Trust, knowledge and friendship have grown over the years among those responsible for the program in Germany and Lebanon.

However, since October 7, 2023, war, terror and destruction have shaken the entire region. Grief, anger and polarization have since escalated or silenced many discussions. For safety reasons, the regular SiMO program had to be paused.

The public events on June 6th, 2025, will be an attempt to re-start our intercultural discourse on the basis of mutual trust and friendship.

At the same time, we would like to introduce Dr. Martin Accad to all friends in Germany: In September 2024, Dr. Accad took office as the President at NEST. He has made intensive efforts, both academically and practically, to promote Christian-Muslim dialogue in Lebanon. We would like to give space to these experiences through three public lectures during his inaugural visit to Germany.

Public Event – Öffentliches Programm – Friday, June 6th, 2025

16:00

Public Lecture (in English):

"Christians and Muslims beyond Victimization" –

A case study from Lebanon

How is it possible to overcome the self-image of being a victim? The public lecture invites us to look beyond stereotypes in Christian-Muslim relations.

Dr. Martin Accad, President of the Near East School of Theology (NEST), Beirut

18:00

Reception and Celebration of 25 years of SiMO

Words of Greeting

Buffet

Signing of Letter of Intent

Party

Venue: Landeskirchenamt der EKM, Michaelisstraße 39, 99084 Erfurt

Practical information:

We kindly ask you to register as soon as possible at simo@ems-online.org !!

The participants are responsible for booking accommodation themselves if necessary.

Accommodations can be found at https://erfurttouristinformation.de/cms/erfurt-uebernachtung-hotel-pension-ferienwohnung/uebernachtung-erfurt.html

In case you cannot make it to Erfurt, other public lectures by Dr. Martin Accad on the same subject will take place in Frankfurt and Bochum:

- Monday, June 2nd, 19:30 Evangelische
 Akademie Frankfurt a.M., Römerberg 9, 60311

 Frankfurt am Main
- Tuesday, June 3rd, 16:00 c.t. Evangelisch-Theologische Fakultät, RUB, Universitätsstraße 150, 44801 Bochum

V.i.s.d.P.: Pfr. Dr. Uwe Gräbe, Fachbereich Nahost, Evangelische Mission in Solidarität, Vogelsangstr. 62, 70197 Stuttgart