

ReDi

The International Society
for the Research and
Study of Diaconia and
Christian Social Practice

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ReDi Newsletter June 2020

The Digital ReDi Conference on September 17th

Invitation to the General Assembly of ReDi

Dear member of ReDi,

The ReDi Executive board wishes to send our greetings to all of you in this special time of a pandemic that deeply affects the social and diaconal work of churches and faith-based organisations all over the world. We do hope this letter finds you at good health and that the pandemic will result in important research on the central role of *diakonia*.

As you already know, the physical conference of ReDi is postponed until September 2021. But in this newsletter you will find more information about the global digital conference that will take place on the 17th of September thanks to our creative colleagues in Oslo.

With this newsletter you will also find the invitation to the **Digital Annual General Meeting of ReDi**, which will take place on the same day, **September 17, 15:15-16:15 (CET)**. The meeting will confirm the closure of ReDi's location in Finland and the transfer of all assets to the organisation located in Belgium. We will also choose a new Executive Board and a new chair of the organisation as I have now served for two periods.

Most welcome to the conference and to our General Meeting!

Digital Conference on 17th Sep, 2020

As we have informed earlier, ReDi, VID Specialized University and the World Council of Churches are together planning for a **digital conference day on 17th September** with online keynote lectures and paper sessions. The original conference planning was made impossible by Covid 19 and its effect of global life. One reason for organising a digital conference day is to express our togetherness in God's service across countries and continents in these times of crisis. Our hope is that a digital conference makes it possible

for scholars, diaconia students and practitioners from the Americas, Africa, Asia and Australasia to take part of a conference that is organised in Europe.

The conference day on 17th September 2020 will be scheduled in a way that will allow participants to join from almost all time zones (or continents) with a core period. During the core period, we hope to come together across all continents while the session before and after will be easier accessible from different time zones. The [linked Third Call](#) addresses in particular scholars from **Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australasia and Oceania to submit papers. from Africa, the Americas, Asia, Australasia and Oceania to submit papers.** We hope that (emerging) researchers together with diaconia students and practitioners from many countries will be able to participate in the conference.

There are two ways of contributing to the conference, as a paper presenter or as an active listener discussing others lectures and paper presentations. We hope that one of the two ways would be interesting for you and your colleagues, students and practice field co-operators and that you could help us spread information about the event and the ways to participate.

If you want to contribute with a paper, please send an abstract to conference@diaconiaresearch.org until **29 June 2020**.

For more information about the conference, see <https://www.vid.no/arrangementer/the-eighth-conference-for-research-in-diaconia-and-christian-social-practice-redi-diaconia-as-gamechanger-leadership-of-service/>

Leading up to the conference you will receive newsletters regularly with updates on details in the planning.

Invitation to the General Assembly of ReDi

We would like to invite you on the due date according to our statutes, to the General Assembly of our association on September 17th 2020 from 15:15 to 16:15 (CET) Please note that the invitation is **for members who have confirmed the transfer of their membership from the Finnish entity to the Belgian one.** The meeting will confirm the closure of ReDi:s location in Finland and the transfer of all assets to the organization located in Belgium. Please find the agenda here: [Agenda ReDi General Assembly 2020](#).

Documents for the annual meeting will be sent out at the beginning of September.

We now wish you good health and some recreation from the demands of work in a time of crisis.

For the ReDi Executive Board,

Ninna Edgardh, Chair person