

***Dear members and friends of the SIPCC,***

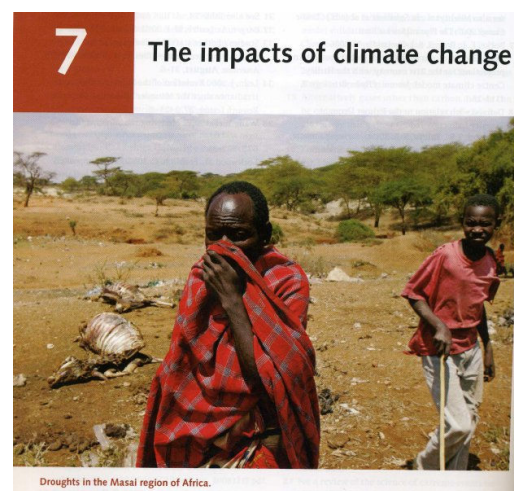
on the first days of the year **2012** I want to send you greetings and blessings for the forthcoming year. May God keep you and your families in His grace and peace and grant you the strength to face all the challenges which are before you.

Let me start my New Year Letter with a picture,

it is taken from the book:

**GLOBAL WARMING**  
**The complete Briefing/**  
**Fourth edition**

by John Houghton  
Cambridge University Press



One of our lecturers of our Seminar 2012 in Moshi, Professor Mugambi, has recommended to buy this book and to read it as a preparation for our Seminar and to go deeper into the discussion about climate change. I follow his advice and give his recommendation to you, too, and even to those who will not be able to be with us in Tanzania.

2011 has been a difficult time for many people and many countries. In newspapers and TV we have heard about them a lot during the whole year. Let us pray for those who are victims of social and political uprising (e.g. in the Arab spring), of natural disasters (especially in Japan and in many other countries) and of the money crisis all over the world, to name only a few examples in our troubled times. We will see what the coming months and days will bring us – and in all that let us keep hope and trust.

“By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered, and confidently waiting come what may,  
we know that God is with us night and morning, and never fails to greet us each new day.”  
(Words by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, written in desperate times.)

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**Looking back to 2011** I can say that it has been a good year for the SIPCC.

There are many reasons to give thanks:

Thanks to all members and friends for all the contributions;  
without your friendly support the SIPCC would not be able to do the work which is done.

Thanks to the *Executive Committee* and its members who give with advice and questions our association clear directions. Allow me to say special thanks to Klaus Temme, our treasurer, who is doing a fantastic job dealing with the all the financial matters.  
Thanks to the *Planning Committee* – and the coordinator *Klaus Temme* - which met several times to do all the preparations of the different meetings and projects.

## Going through the months of 2011 I can highlight some events:

**January 26:** Presentation of the book "Handbuch Interreligiöse Seelsorge" ("Compendium of Interreligious Pastoral Care") in Düsseldorf.

**23 February:** Meeting to prepare the conference in Beuggen (26. February – 1 March 2012).

**March 9 - 13:** Conference 2011 in Krzyzowa, Poland on the theme "*Biographies in communist times*" which was very successful with more than 70 participants.

**June 10 - 12:** Meeting of the Executive Committee of the SIPCC in Düsseldorf.  
Points of discussions: preparations of Seminar in Hamburg and Tanzania; establishing institutional partnerships; prolonging the term of the EC for one year until 2013.

**June 12 - 18:** SIPCC International Seminar in Hamburg, Germany.  
Theme: "*In the Power of the Holy Spirit*".  
Special thanks go to our friends in the Mission Academy, who have been great hosts and co-workers.

**August 31:** Klaus und Helmut are visiting Ari van Buuren and Anneke de Vries in Nijmegen, Netherlands to tighten the relations to the Netherlands and to start with preparations for the Seminar 2014.

**September 23 – 24:** Meeting of the Planning Committee, preparing especially the Seminar in Tanzania.

**October:** Helmut's book "Seelsorge – Supervision – Pastoralpsychologie" (Pastoral Care – Supervision – Pastoral psychology) was published in German.

**December:** Helmut's book is published in Hungarian:  
"Lelkigondozás – Szupervízió – Pasztorálpszichológia".  
Thanks to Miklos Kocsev and János Thót for all the editorial work.

Besides these highlights of **SIPCC educational activities** in the responsibility of SIPCC continue:

The CPE-courses in Poland expand and are conducted together with Grzegorz Giemza, our member.

The courses in Slovakia were ended and handed over to our SIPCC-members in Slovakia, Julius Filo, Eva Oslikova and Miriam Prasilova.

Klaus and Helmut continue with the course in "Islamic care in hospitals", which started in 2010.

We have established several institutional partnerships and try to extend them step by step.

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## Publications:

I have to apologise that we have not been able to finish the two numbers of our magazine with the documentation of the Krzyzowa conference and the Hamburg Seminar. I am sorry about that. But that will be a major task for January and February 2012.

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**Looking forward to 2012** we have several plans:

**January 23:** Meeting with the colleagues of the Mission Academy in Hamburg to talk about a follow up conference on Pentecostal counselling.

**January 25:** Meeting of the Planning Committee in Amsterdam for preparations of the Seminar 2014, to be held in the Netherlands.

**February 17 - 19:** Meeting of a group in Krzyzowa, Poland to prepare the next conference there in 2013 there. Persons from Eastern countries are invited to participate.

**February 26 – March 1:** Conference in Beuggen: *Education in intercultural and interreligious Care and counselling*. (Programme in German see website)

**March 6 – 14:** Helmut will travel to Moshi, Tanzania, for preparation of the International Seminar 2012.

**March 16:** Planning Committee meeting for preparation of the SIPCC Seminar 2013 to take place in Mainz, Germany.

Theme: ***Islamic Spiritual Care in Conversation - A Trialogue between Muslims, Jews and Christians***

**July 11 - 15:** Pre-Seminar in Moshi, Tanzania

**July 15 – 21:** SIPCC Seminar in Moshi, Tanzania

**Caring for Creation – Caring for People**

**July 21 – 25:** Study trip: Safari in Tanzania

You are invited to attend the Seminar in Moshi. You will find the programme and the registration form in the attachment. Please register soon!!

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**And a short look to 2013 and 2014:**

**February 13 – 17, 2013:** SIPCC will conduct a conference again in Krzyzowa. We will give you the theme as soon as possible.

**September 28 – October 4, 2013:**

SIPCC Seminar in Mainz, Germany:

***Islamic Spiritual Care in Conversation***

*A Trialogue between Muslims, Jews and Christians*

**2014:** An International Seminar is planned in the Netherlands.

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**I beg you heartily to continue supporting our international, intercultural and interreligious work.**

The SIPCC constitution is stating that we are an association which is working for justice, peace and the integrity of creation. As you can see we are going in these directions and contribute to the welfare of mankind with our humble activities. May God bless, what we are doing.

Please go again and again to our website [www.sipcc.org](http://www.sipcc.org) which gives you a lot of information even on the events I have mentioned before.

So let us look with trust and faith into the future and let us do what we are called to.

Thank you again for your truthful relation to the SIPCC.

I wish you and all your beloved ones many good days in the year 2012, health, courage and trust in God, the keeper of our life.

Shalom and blessings

Helmut