



Ecumenical Council of Finland

# Ecumenical Good Practice

***“that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” John 17:21***

## **Common faith**

We confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures. We believe in the Triune God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## **Trust**

We trust that Jesus’ prayer for unity is stronger than the divisions among Christians. It builds trust and openness between us.

## **Christians together**

The aim of ecumenism is the common witness and service of Christians and the visible unity of the Church of Christ.

## **Respect**

We respect the different traditions of prayer and worship among the churches, as well as the various expressions of Christian faith and life.

## **Dialogue**

We learn to understand one another when we listen to each other and engage in dialogue as equals. At the same time, we also gain a deeper understanding of our own tradition.

## **Local and global**

Cooperation among congregations in the same locality is a visible sign of Christian unity, but we also remember that we belong to the worldwide Christian community.

## **Yes to the Gospel – no to proselytism**

We rejoice that Christian communities proclaim the Gospel and share the Christian faith—and, at our best, we do so together with other Christians. We do not seek to weaken anyone’s ties to their own church, nor do we attempt to draw members away from one another’s communities.

## **Truthful information and love**

We are committed to providing truthful information about one another. We do not present an idealised image of our own community or portray other communities negatively. We love one another and speak well of one another.

## **Working for the good of our neighbours**

Together, we act and advocate for love of our neighbours, justice, peace, reconciliation and the integrity of creation.

***In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty;  
and in all things, love.***