

Glossary for TEC – ELKB Agreement

1. Terms

Anglican Communion

– The Anglican Communion is the global communion of Anglican and Episcopal churches in communion with the See of Canterbury. Member churches exercise jurisdictional independence but share a common heritage concerning Anglican identity. It comprises more than 80 million members in 44 regional and national member churches in more than 165 countries. →The Episcopal Church is a member of the Anglican Communion.

Anglican Consultative Council (ACC)

– The ACC facilitates the co-operative work of the churches of the Anglican Communion, exchanging information between the provinces and churches, and helping to co-ordinate common action. It advises on the organisation and structures of the Communion, and seeks to develop common policies with respect to the world mission of the Church, including ecumenical matters. An advisory body rather than a synod, its membership includes →lay people, archbishops, bishops, priests, and deacons. Established after the 1968 →Lambeth Conference, the ACC generally meets every two to three years.

Book of Common Prayer (BCP)

– The BCP is the official book of worship of the Episcopal Church. It provides liturgical forms, prayers, and instructions so that all may share in common worship. Anglican liturgical piety has been rooted in the Prayer Book tradition since the publication of the first English Prayer Book in 1549, revised in 1552, 1559 and 1662. The first American BCP was ratified by the first →General Convention of →The Episcopal Church in 1789. The current version dates from 1979. (See also entry in list of documents below.)

Communion, Full

– In entering full communion, distinct churches, having already recognized the other as a catholic and apostolic church holding the essentials of the Christian faith, take the steps necessary to achieve (*inter alia*) mutual recognition and interchangeability of ordained ministries. (See for the definition underlying this document, paragraphs 7 and 8.)

Convention, Convocation

– The annual Convention of the Convocation is made up of lay and clerical representatives from all recognized congregations of the →Convocation. This legislative body meets annually to elect members of committees and deputies to →General Convention, to make decisions about policy, to conduct other business (e.g., budget, program) and, from time to time, to elect a bishop.

Convention, General

– The General Convention is the highest legislative body of TEC. It consists of a House of Bishops (with about 150 members) and a House of Deputies, made up of four lay persons

and four clergy persons from each diocese (totalling about 800 members). Legislation must pass in both houses to take effect across →TEC. General Convention generally meets every three years over a 10-day period.

Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe

– The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe is the overarching organisation of the parishes and missions of TEC in Europe. The Convocation, although not technically a diocese, fulfils many of the functions of a diocese. It is under the jurisdiction of the Presiding Bishop, with an elected Bishop-in-Charge. Its history goes back to 1859, when an American Episcopal congregation in Paris was recognized as a parish. This is now the cathedral. Over the years the number of Episcopal parishes in Europe increased. The Convocation currently includes congregations in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Georgia, Italy, and Switzerland.

Episkopé

– This is the ministry of oversight, which, in accordance with Christ’s command across the ages, cares for and orders the life of a whole community, pastoring the pastors and the people of God, seeking to ensure that the gospel is truly preached and the sacraments properly administered, in unity with Christians in other places. Oversight or *episkopé* is a requirement of the whole Church and its faithful exercise in the light of the Gospel is of fundamental importance to its life. *Episkopé* is exercised personally, collegially and communally.

Eucharistic Sharing / Mutual Eucharistic Hospitality

– Eucharistic Sharing, or Mutual Eucharistic Hospitality, refers to the mutual extending of an invitation to receive communion in one another’s churches.

Evangelical

– Evangelical derives from the Greek word for “gospel”. *Evangelisch* – evangelical – was the original designation used for and by the early reformers, and in German-speaking areas to refer to most non-Roman and non-Orthodox Christians. Evangelical in this sense is roughly equivalent to the English term Protestant; it is historically unrelated to twentieth-century evangelical movements in the United States, translated *evangelikal* in German.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

– The ELCA is the largest Lutheran Church in the United States. It was officially formed in 1988 by the merger of three Lutheran churches. It has about 3.3 million baptized members in over 9000 congregations organized in 65 synods each with a bishop. On the national level, the Churchwide Assembly is the highest decision-making body. Between Assemblies, the presiding bishop’s office, the conference of bishops and church council together guide the church.

Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (Evangelical Church in Germany; EKD)

– Twenty Lutheran, Reformed and United regional churches (→*Landeskirchen*) form the EKD. German Protestant church structures are based on federal principles at all levels. Without in any way diminishing the autonomy and characteristics of the each regional church, the EKD carries out joint tasks with which its members have entrusted it.

Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Bayern (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria; ELKB)

– The ELKB has about 2.3 million members. The approximately 1.500 congregations are organized in 66 deaneries, each with a dean, in six church districts, each with a regional bishop. The ELKB is jointly governed by the bishop (*Landesbischof*), synod (*Landessynode*), its executive committee (*Landessynodalausschuss*) and church governing board (*Landeskirchenrat*). It is the third largest regional church (*Landeskirche*) in the →EKD and its territory is virtually identical to the state of Bavaria.

Interchangeability of Ministries

– Interchangeability of Ministries describes the mutual recognition of ordained ministers in one another's churches as equivalent to that ministry in one's own church. Persons ordained in either of the churches to the office of priest/pastor are welcome to serve, by invitation and in accordance with any regulations which are in force, in that ministry in the receiving church without re-ordination. Bishops may be invited to carry out in the other church, as appropriate, those ministries which they exercise in their own, such as confirmation.

Lambeth Conference

– The Lambeth Conference is the meeting of all bishops of the Anglican Communion, summoned by the Archbishop of Canterbury, which has taken place roughly every ten years since 1867. Its role within the Anglican Communion is technically advisory; nonetheless, the Lambeth Conference has proved to be a powerful expression of the collegiality of Anglican bishops and an important forum for the clarification and articulation of Anglican theology and practice.

Landeskirche (regional church)

– The autonomous German *Landeskirchen* (regional churches), of which the →Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (ELKB) is one, together make up the →EKD. They include Lutheran, Reformed and United churches. Within the EKD these churches have geographically non-overlapping jurisdictions (except in some areas the Reformed church). Seven of the Lutheran *Landeskirchen* together form the →United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany (VELKD).

Lay People

– Lay people refers to all people in the church who are baptized but not part of the ordained clergy. The term "laity" is derived from the Greek word for "people". There are concerns about this term within many churches of the Reformation, since it can be seen to imply an inferior status of non-ordained people and thus to contradict the doctrine of the priesthood

of all believers. In the Episcopal Church Catechism, lay people, together with bishops, priests, and deacons, are referred to as “ministers of the Church”.

Lutheran World Federation

– The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) is a global communion of 148 churches in the Lutheran tradition, representing over 77 million Christians in 99 countries. It was founded in 1947. Since 1984 the member churches have been in communion sharing pulpit and altar fellowship based on a common doctrine grounded on the Holy Scriptures and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church.

Oberkirchenrat

– *Oberkirchenrat/rätin* is a German title for persons in certain senior leadership positions. Usually it is used for church executives (mainly ordained ministers or church lawyers) heading a department in the central church administration of a regional church, or of the →VELKD or →EKD. In the ELKB the members of the church governing board are “*Oberkirchenräte*”: six are the heads of the departments in the church headquarters and six are regional bishops. The chair of the church governing board is the *Landesbischof*.

Ordained Ministry

– The office of ministry of Word and Sacrament has been instituted within the people of God and for the sake of the gospel ministry entrusted to all believers. To carry out this ministry, qualified persons are called and ordained.

Oversight

– see *Episkopé*

Priesthood of All Believers

– The Priesthood of all Believers asserts that all baptized believers have direct and equal access to God through Christ, share in Christ’s priestly status and thus do not need a priestly mediator. It is a foundational concept of the (Lutheran) Reformation. In the Anglican tradition it is often referred to as Ministry of all the Baptized.

Recognition of Churches

– The mutual acknowledgement between churches that one another’s churches are churches belonging to the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ and truly participating in the apostolic mission of the whole people of God; that in those churches the Word of God is authentically preached and the sacraments of baptism and eucharist are duly administered; that one another’s ordained ministries are given by God and instruments of his grace (even if full →interchangeability of ministries is not achieved); the recognition that personal and collegial oversight (→*episkopé*) is embodied and exercised in one another’s churches in a variety of forms, episcopal and non-episcopal, as a visible sign of the Church’s unity and continuity in apostolic life, mission and ministry.

Recognition of Ministries

– Recognition of Ministries entails the recognition between two churches that one another's ordained ministries are given by God and instruments of his grace. It does not achieve full →interchangeability of ministries.

Succession

– Theologically, succession refers to the transmission of spiritual authority from the apostles to today's church. This present agreement is based on the understanding that succession is both historical and evangelical. (See paragraphs 28-38.)

Synod

– The term synod derives from the Greek *synodos*, "a meeting" or "a coming together". It refers to a regional or national legislative body of the Church, in the ELKB and TEC with members who are both ordained and →lay. The →ELKB accordingly has a *Landessynode* and regional *Dekanatssynoden*. →TEC has Provincial Synods, but otherwise uses the term →Convention.

The Episcopal Church (TEC)

– The Episcopal Church is a member church of the →Anglican Communion. It comprises 109 dioceses in over 16 nations, including seven European countries. The official name of the Episcopal Church is "The Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America." It has also been known as "The Episcopal Church of the USA" (ECUSA), but is now referred to as TEC.

Vereinigte Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche Deutschlands (United Evangelical Lutheran Church of Germany; VELKD)

– The VELKD is formed by seven regional Lutheran churches in Germany with about 8.4 million members. It was founded in 1948 to promote and maintain the unity of Lutheranism in Germany. The →Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (ELKB) is one of the member churches of the VELKD.

2. Agreements and texts referred to in the document

Appeal to All Christian People (1920)

– the call to Christian Unity issued by the Anglican Bishops at the 1920 →Lambeth Conference. The text (Resolution 9) can be found here:

<https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/document-library/lambeth-conference/1920/resolution-9-reunion-of-christendom?author=Lambeth+Conference&year=1920>.

Augsburg Confession or Confessio Augustana (1530)

– written in 1530 in German and Latin to present the Protestant faith to the Imperial Diet in Augsburg, the *Augsburg Confession* is the fundamental confessional statement of the Lutheran

churches. An English translation can be found here: <https://www.ekd.de/en/The-Confession-of-Faith-301.htm>.

Book of Common Prayer

– the liturgy, or Prayer Book, of the Church of England, first drafted in 1549, and revised in 1552, 1559 and 1662. The 1662 Book of Common Prayer became the basis of the Prayer Books of most churches of the Anglican Communion. The original American Prayer Book drew also on the 1637 Scottish Prayer Book. Most Anglican churches revised their liturgies extensively during the twentieth century. In The Episcopal Church this process resulted in the Book of Common Prayer 1979. For the text see: <https://www.bcponline.org/>.

Called to Common Mission (1999/2000) – the agreement of →Full Communion between →TEC and the →ELCA. The text is available here: <https://episcopalchurch.org/agreement-full-communication-called-common-mission>.

Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral or Lambeth Quadrilateral

– agreed by the 1888 →Lambeth Conference on the basis of a text accepted by the 1886 →General Convention, the quadrilateral defines four articles that constitute the basis for ecumenical discussions between the member churches of the →Anglican Communion and other Christian churches: acceptance of Holy Scripture as the rule of faith; the Apostles' and the Nicene creeds; the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper; and the historic episcopate, locally adapted.

Confessio Augustana

– see *Augsburg Confession*

Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification (1999)

– a historic agreement signed by the →Lutheran World Federation and the Roman Catholic Church in 1999, effectively resolving one of the key theological conflicts of the Reformation. Initially a Catholic-Lutheran agreement, it has since been joined or affirmed by three other Christian World Communions: Methodist, Anglican and Reformed. For the text and further information, see here: <https://www.lutheranworld.org/jddj>.

Hanover Report (1996)

– *The Diaconate as Ecumenical Opportunity*, the report of the first Anglican-Lutheran International Commission. The text is available here: https://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/102181/the_hanover_report.pdf.

Jerusalem Report (2011)

– *To Love and Serve the Lord*, the report of the third Anglican-Lutheran International Commission on diakonia. The text is available here: <https://www.lutheranworld.org/sites/default/files/To%20Love%20and%20Serve%20the%20Lord%20-%20Report%20of%20the%20Anglican-Lutheran%20Conference%20III.pdf>.

Lambeth Quadrilateral

– see *Chicago-Lambeth Quadrilateral*

Lund Statement (2007)

– *Episcopal Ministry within the Apostolicity of the Church*, a statement by the Lutheran World Federation. The text is available here:

https://ecumenism.net/archive/docu/2007_lwf_lund_episcopal_ministry_apostolicity_church_en.pdf.

Meissen Agreement or Meissen Declaration (1991)

– agreement of mutual recognition of churches, mutual recognition of ministries and mutual eucharistic hospitality between the Church of England and the →Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD). The Meissen Agreement does not achieve interchangeability of ministries and is not an agreement of full communion. The English text is available here:

<https://www.ekd.de/en/Meissen-Declaration-289.htm>.

Porvoo Common Statement (1992/93)

– agreement of Communion between the European member churches of the Anglican Communion and most of the Nordic and Baltic Lutheran churches. For the statement and other information see here: http://porvoocommunion.org/porvoo_communion/statement/.

Small Catechism (1529)

– Martin Luther's concise summary of Christian doctrine, explicating the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer and the sacraments of baptism and the Eucharist; it also includes prayers for use in the morning and evening. The *Small Catechism* is a foundational text of the Lutheran churches. An English translation can be found here:

<https://www.ekd.de/en/Small-Catechism-298.htm>.

Waterloo Declaration (2001)

– agreement of →Full Communion between the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. The text is available here:

<https://www.anglican.ca/resources/called-to-full-communication-the-waterloo-declaration/>.