

ECUMENICAL ADVOCACY DAYS POLICY ON CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND EXHIBITS

Ecumenical Advocacy Days is a movement of the ecumenical Christian community, and its recognized partners and allies, grounded in biblical witness and our shared traditions of justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Preserving EAD's ecumenical nature and participation is of primary importance in all EAD conference activity. EAD lifts up the advocacy concerns around which the ecumenical community finds unity and agreement.

For this reason, EAD utilizes for its conference program presentations the policy of the Washington Inter-Religious Staff Community (WISC) concerning certain issues around which the ecumenical Christian community is deeply divided and conflicted. These include issues of (1) abortion – either from a “pro-choice” or “pro-life” perspective, (2) same-sex marriage – either “pro” or “con,” and (3) certain issues related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. While some WISC member institutions and EAD sponsoring organizations do indeed address some of these issues themselves and in coalition with others – from various perspectives – formal WISC events and the EAD conference do not address them. The EAD Conference Coordinator should be consulted regarding presentations that might cover gray areas related to these issues.

EAD applies a form of this policy to exhibits. EAD welcomes exhibitors who are (1) EAD sponsoring organizations or (2) organizations whose exhibits express the common shared values of EAD sponsors. Accordingly, the EAD Conference will not include exhibits by organizations which are established primarily around issues of (1) abortion – either from a “pro-choice” or “pro-life” perspective, (2) same-sex marriage – either “pro” or “con,” or (3) certain issues related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Since questions of nuance may arise, all exhibits are subject to final approval by the EAD Leadership Team. At the same time, we recognize that some multi-issue sponsoring organizations who address one or more of these issues may wish to include some literature about them among their various exhibit offerings. EAD policy is that only EAD sponsoring organizations may do this, if they choose, but may not make such an issue a primary focus or overt emphasis of their exhibit.

We ask that all exhibitors choose their exhibit offerings keeping in mind the ecumenical nature of EAD and with respect toward the views of fellow EAD sponsors.