

# ***RESPONSE***

## ***FROM AN ANABAPTIST- MENNONITE PERSPECTIVE***

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Mennonite World Conference  
Congreso Mundial Menonita  
Conférence Mennonite Mondiale  
Mennonitische Weltkonferenz



KONFERENZ DER MENNONITEN DER SCHWEIZ  
CONFÉRENCE MENNONITE SUISSE

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## I. Preliminary Remarks

- *“Where there is faith, there is freedom.” (Zwingli 1523)*
- *“The Anabaptists, who really should finally be cast to the ravens, are disturbing the peace of the pious among us. But I believe that the axe has been laid to the root of that tree.” (Zwingli 1527)*

## II. “Steps to Reconciliation”

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## **III. Anabaptist Emphases on Church, State and Politics**

- 1. The Voluntary Nature of Faith and Church Membership*
- 2. New Approaches to the Christian Faith in Place of Compulsory or Habitual Participation*
- 3. “Seek the Welfare of the City” (Jer 29,7)*

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## III. Anabaptist Emphases on Church, State and Politics

### 4. *“Do Good to Them” - Just Peace and the Rejection of Lethal Violence*

*“What kind of Christians would we be if we wanted to take revenge on those who persecute us? We have not come to know Christ in such a way that we should inflict pain and evil on those who harm us; rather, we should do good to them. This is what we want to do as long as we live.”*

*(Hans Seckler, 1527)*

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## **IV. Conclusion**

*“Strengthening our mutual testimony through dialogue” (Ruedi Reich, 2004)*