# General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022
## Archives' Research Report

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| **Resolution No.:** | 2022-C044 |
| **Title:** | Inclusivity on TEC website |
| **Proposer:** | Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe |
| **Topic:** | Technology |

**Directly Related:** (Attached)

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| 2018-A053 | Simplify and Improve Usability of Parochial Report |
| 2009-C060 | Direct Inclusion of Overseas Congregations in Statistical Reports |
| 2003-A080 | Direct Episcopal Church Center to Maintain a User-Friendly Website |

**Indirectly Related:** (Available in the Acts of Convention database, searchable by resolution number)

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| 2009-D087 | Conduct a Comprehensive Communications Audit |

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The "direct" resolutions are attached and "indirect" resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the Research Request Form or call 800-525-9329.*

# C044 - Inclusivity on TEC website

**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe
**Requests New Interim Body**: No
**Amends C&C or Rules of Order**: No
**Has Budget Implications**: No
**Cost**:
**HiA:** HD
**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned**: 04 - Governance & Structure
**Completion Status:** Incomplete
**Latest House Action:** N/A
**Supporting Documents:** No

## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention direct The Episcopal Church and urge all agencies, institutions and organizations connected with it to revise their online forms including, but not limited to, addresses, telephone numbers, credit card numbers, postal codes and currency abbreviations, to allow for non- US standard responses to form fields for members of congregations residing outside the United States, and be it further

*Resolved*, that all information and interactive material posted on the website of The Episcopal Church include all of its dioceses and jurisdictions, and be available for use by all members of The Episcopal Church, including those outside the United States.

## Explanation

For several years, members of congregations, not only in the Convocation but in other overseas dioceses, have drawn attention to the challenges for persons residing outside of the United States to complete TEC online forms, such as parochial reports and lists of deputies to General Convention, owing to the impossibility to enter telephone numbers, credit card numbers, postal codes, currency abbreviations, accent marks, international e-mail domains and other information from geographical areas outside the United States.

Although The Episcopal Church includes a number of jurisdictions outside the United States, information from non-US dioceses and the Convocation is often only partially included, or not included, in results of the Parochial Reports, especially financial information. This runs counter to the provisions of Resolution C060, "Direct Inclusion of Overseas Congregations in Statistical Reports", approved at the 2009 General Convention.

Further, for members of the numerous TEC congregations outside the United States, it is often difficult, if not impossible, to use or post information on interactive websites, such as for the Care of Creation Episcopal Carbon Tracker. This resolution seeks to enable all members of TEC congregations, wherever they may reside and worship, to have easy access to all TEC online forms, while ensuring that both the reporting and providing of information be fully inclusive in all parts of TEC.

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| **Resolution Number:** | 2018-A053 |
| **Title:** | Simplify and Improve Usability of Parochial Report |
| **Legislative Action Taken:** | Concurred as Amended |
| **Final Text:** | |

*Resolved*, **That the 79th General Convention charge the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church to work with the Office of the General Convention and Executive Council to design a simplified parochial report relevant to the diversity of The Episcopal Church's participation in God's mission in the world;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church solicit input from critical parochial report stakeholders including: (1) data providers to ensure that the data is easily collected and compiled and (2) data users to ensure that the data collected is relevant to their work;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the user interface be improved both for entering data and downloading data and to provide an application programming interface to allow data to be integrated into other networked tools for broader sharing and analysis.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 362.

**Resolution Number:**     2009-C060

**Title:**     Direct Inclusion of Overseas Congregations in Statistical Reports

**Legislative Action Taken:**     Concurred

**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, **That the House of Deputies Committee on the State of the Church be directed to include in their report to the 77th General Convention, and all subsequent General Conventions, all statistics pertaining to the life of the congregations in all oversea Dioceses and the Convocation of American Churches in Europe**.

**Citation:**     General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 148.

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| **Resolution Number:** | 2003-A080 |
| **Title:** | Direct Episcopal Church Center to Maintain a User-Friendly Website |
| **Legislative Action Taken:** | Concurred as Substituted |
| **Final Text:** | |

*Resolved*, **That the 74th General Convention direct the Episcopal Church Center staff to:**
- **Continue to develop the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society website in ways that are more highly visual and professional in their appearance, dynamic, interactive, easier to navigate, and constantly updated;**
- **Deploy user-profiling tools to deliver website material according to user preferences (such as seeker, lay, clergy, deputy, standing commission member);**
- **Include multilingual and next generations resources in all areas of the website;**
- **Collect and post on the website a variety of resources related to faith formation, ongoing spiritual growth, and education of both children and adults;**
- **Include resources on the website that are oriented to seekers from outside The Episcopal Church, and that assist in making disciples oriented to mission for the local context;**
- **Devote a portion of the website to mentoring and relationship building among those who work with the next generations, including campus ministries, young adults ministries, youth ministries, and children's ministries;**
- **Maintain a unity of design and ease of access including easy forward and backward mobility;** and be it further

*Resolved,* **That the Episcopal Church Center staff provide software and freeware resources for downloading.**

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| **Citation:** | General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 324f. |