

## General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

**Resolution No.:** 2024-A080  
**Title:** Create a Task Force on Countering the Colonial Mindset  
**Proposer:** Standing Commission on World Mission  
**Topic:** Racism, Reconciliation

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### Directly Related: (Attached)

2022-A017 Urge Assessment of Participation In Historic Colonialism  
2022-A127 Create Commission to Research Church's Historic Role in Indigenous Boarding Schools  
2022-A129 Conduct Historical Research on DFMS Assets Tied to Racial Injustice  
2022-C035 Create Training Modules on Slavery and Reparations  
2022-C072 Develop and Implement Indigenous Land Acknowledgment Liturgies  
2022-D005 Implement the Internalized Oppression Curriculum  
2022-D019 Acknowledge Indigenous Lands at DFMS Gatherings  
2018-A044 Set Essential Components of Anti-Racism or Racial Reconciliation Training  
2018-A045 Reaffirm and Report on Anti-Racism Training  
2018-D016 Create a Task Force for Women, Truth, and Reconciliation  
2015-C019 Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation  
2009-D035 Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery

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

2022-A052 Revise Mandate for Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism and Reconciliation  
2022-D004 Continue Funding the Work of Beloved Community  
2022-D090 Reaffirm the Church's Teaching on Racism  
2018-A043 Revise Mandate for Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism  
2018-D002 Request Funding for Racial Reconciliation Initiatives  
2012-A132 Protect Indigenous Peoples' Sacred Sites

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, 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](#).*

# A080 - Create a Task Force on Countering the Colonial Mindset

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** Standing Commission on World Mission

**Has Budget Implications:** Yes

**Cost:** \$150,000.00

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** No

**Requests New Interim Body:** Yes

**Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib:** No

**Directs Dfms Staff:** No

**Directs Dioceses:** No

**Directs Executive Council:** No

**HiA:** No House Assigned

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** No Committee Assigned

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** No

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That the 81st General Convention reckon with the history and present reality of colonialism in The Episcopal Church and its dual identity as a former colony and a colonizing power; and be it further

Resolved, That General Convention recognize the following working definition of the colonial mindset as: “the living legacy of colonialism in the 21st century exemplified by the supremacy of Western/European mindsets, modes of thinking, cultural and economic systems, and bodies in former colonial states and their partners”; and be it further

Resolved, That General Convention create a Task Force on Countering the Colonial Mindset, whose mandate include, but be not limited to, researching and highlighting historic and present realities of the colonial mindset in our common life, and establishing educational materials for dioceses, churches, and mission partners to use in their work and ministry; and be it further

Resolved, That the task force begin its work no later than January 1, 2025 and conclude its work at the conclusion of the 82nd General Convention with the submission of a report with recommendations to the 82nd General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the membership of this task force be appointed by the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies and include up to two Bishops appointed by the Presiding Bishop; up to four Clergy and up to ten Lay Persons appointed by the President of the House of Deputies, with special consideration given to inclusion of faculty from accredited Episcopal seminaries or Episcopal/Anglican formation centers within university systems and partners with specialties in Colonialism and Missiology; and be it further

Resolved, The General Convention request a budget allocation \$150,000 to create such a task force and publish educational materials for countering the colonial mindset for use by dioceses, churches, and mission partners.

## **Explanation**

At the 80th General Convention, the Standing Commission on World Mission was tasked with preparing a report on the impact of colonialism on the Episcopal Church. The need for such a report was clear from the outset, yet what has emerged as a primary focus is the continuing impact of the colonial mindset on the Church today. Our missional institutions are replete with organizations, actors and systems that offer a preference for white, European and male voices in the allocation of funds, people and attention. The Anglican Church, the Episcopal Church, and its missional organs have often been the voice of empire and may still function that way through lack of awareness.

From the beginning, the missionary work of the Episcopal Church was wrapped up in the broader effort at colonization. In fact, the first missionary efforts undertaken in the Church were under the auspices of the Colonization Society. Looking back, Episcopal missionary efforts, while always undertaken with the goal of propagating the Gospel all over the world, also suffered from the unmistakable connection to colonialism.

Therefore, the Standing Commission on World Mission urges the General Convention to (a) create a Task Force on Countering the Colonial Mindset and (b) allocate adequate funds for its creation and work which includes researching and highlighting historic and present realities of the colonial mindset in our common life, and establishing educational materials for dioceses, churches, and mission partners to use in their work and ministry. This task force would report back to the 82d General Convention.



**Resolution Number:** 2022-A017  
**Title:** Urge Assessment of Participation In Historic Colonialism  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention acknowledge and grieve the participation of the Episcopal Church and its various entities and institutions in colonialism in North America, Latin America, Africa, Oceania and Asia; and warns of and laments colonial mindsets in the Church today; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention affirm that Colonialism and its continuing impacts are antithetical to the Gospel as proclaimed by our Savior Jesus Christ, and that we are all called to repent and atone for the evils perpetuated in the name of Christ in the missionary field; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Standing Commission on World Mission (SCWM) encourage the Episcopal Church to use principles and practices which turn from the colonial mindset of the past towards mutuality of relationships in our mission, ministries, and outreach; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention urge the SCWM to deliver a report to the 82nd General Convention on the historic role of the Episcopal Church in colonialism through its missionary work, and how and where a colonial mindset continues to prejudice our work in propagating the Gospel; and be it further*

*Resolved, \$50,000 be budgeted to support the Office of Global Partnerships in support of this work in partnership with the Standing Commission on World Mission in the next Biennium.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), pp. 542-543.



**Resolution Number:** 2022-A127  
**Title:** Create Commission to Research Church's Historic Role in Indigenous Boarding Schools  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That we recognize the work of becoming Beloved Community as a long-term commitment directed toward dismantling racism, which is essential to our spiritual life, by acknowledging, engaging, and supporting the ongoing work of racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation as one Body of Christ. Thereby, we live into our Baptismal Covenant of “Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? I will with God’s help,” and every Episcopalian strives toward the dismantling of white supremacy; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention create a fact-finding commission to conduct research in the Archives of The Episcopal Church and its dioceses, the National Archives, and the Library of Congress, as well as any other repository of historical documents relevant to the role of the Episcopal Church in the Indigenous residential boarding schools of North America; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this 80th General Convention thanks the Executive Council for its commitment to work on “Native Boarding Schools and Advocacy, Resolution MW062 in VBinder), and urges it to work cooperatively with the conduct of a comprehensive and complete investigation of the church’s ownership and operation of Episcopal-run Indigenous boarding schools; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Archives of The Episcopal Church be encouraged to hire one or more research fellows to work with dioceses where Episcopal-run boarding schools were located to find and share records from those schools; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Archives be directed to share all relevant records with the Indigenous Ministries of The Episcopal Church and the National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition for inclusion in their growing resource database; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Archives be directed to work with the Office of Indigenous Ministries to support the production of an educational video that can be used across the church to share the history of Indigenous boarding schools in the US and the history of The Episcopal Church-run boarding schools; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the dioceses of The Episcopal Church will be strongly encouraged to, before the 81st General Convention, begin an audit of the relationship, financial or otherwise, between the federal government, the diocese and/or its subsidiary entities, its churches, and any Episcopal or non-Episcopal missionary societies with respect to any Indigenous residential boarding school operated within the territorial jurisdiction of that diocese; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the dioceses of The Episcopal Church will be strongly encouraged to, before the 81st General Convention, begin to gather information from boarding school survivors and their descendants about the experiences of Indigenous children and families in Episcopal run and/or supported residential boarding schools within the territorial jurisdiction of that diocese; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the dioceses of The Episcopal Church will be strongly encouraged to, before the 81st General Convention, provide a public platform through which the stories of boarding*

school survivors of any Indigenous residential boarding schools within the territorial jurisdiction of that diocese and their descendants might be preserved and shared; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 80th General Convention acknowledge the intergenerational trauma caused by the Doctrine of Discovery, colonialism, genocide, ethnocide through the operation of Indigenous boarding schools, and other systems of white supremacy that have oppressed Indigenous peoples; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this 80th General Convention direct Executive Council to follow the lead of Indigenous communities and invest in community-based spiritual healing centers that will work to address the effect of intergenerational trauma by providing mental health and substance abuse counseling, traditional forms of healing, family counseling, and other services and support desired by local communities; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Episcopal Church will support federal legislation to create a truth and healing commission on Indian boarding school policy, consistent with the Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative of the U.S. Department of the Interior and its efforts to “shed light on the traumas of the past;” and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 80th General Convention recognize, affirm, and support the ongoing work of Executive Council around these issues through the creation of the Executive Council Committee for Indigenous Boarding Schools and Advocacy, as well as the extraordinary efforts of the Presiding Officer’s Working Group on Truth-telling, Reckoning, and Healing; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 80th General Convention appropriate \$2,500,000 over the next biennium, or some other degree of funding commensurate with The Episcopal Church’s commitment to the work of truth-telling and reconciliation around its role in Indigenous residential boarding schools, to adequately fund the provisions of this resolution, specifically 1) to fund the creation and support of a fact-finding commission; 2) to fund the work of the Office of Indigenous Ministries to create an education resource regarding the church’s role in Indigenous residential boarding schools; 3) to fund a grant program to support the work of the dioceses of The Episcopal Church in both conducting their own research into the diocesan role in Indigenous residential boarding schools and preserving the stories of boarding school survivors and their families; and 4) to support the establishment of community-based spiritual healing centers in Indigenous communities across The Episcopal Church to address the intergenerational trauma rooted in the church’s role in Indigenous residential boarding schools.

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), pp. 769-770.



**Resolution Number:** 2022-A129  
**Title:** Conduct Historical Research on DFMS Assets Tied to Racial Injustice  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention directs the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies to ensure that this Church conducts historical research on the origins and sources of the financial and all other assets of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society that are directly tied to the enslavement of humans, the slave trade, and historical and current racial injustices, in order to tell the story of our history and to report the results to the Executive Council prior to the 81st General Convention; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this 80th General Convention urges the Church Pension Group to conduct historical research on the origins and sources of its financial and all other assets, and to report the results to its constituents; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this 80th General Convention urges each diocese to conduct its own historical research on the origins and sources of their financial and all other assets; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this 80th General Convention allocates \$150,000 for this work.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 759.



**Resolution Number:** 2022-C035  
**Title:** Create Training Modules on Slavery and Reparations  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concur as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention direct, consistent with established policies and procedures, that the Executive Council shall direct that the Department of Reconciliation, Justice, and Creation Care work in collaboration with the Department of Faith Formation to create training modules on the topic of slavery and reparations, for use by the whole Church in the training of children and adults as they are prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society allocate up to \$35,000 to fund this work for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 771.





**Resolution Number:** 2022-C072  
**Title:** Develop and Implement Indigenous Land Acknowledgment Liturgies  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention urge each Diocese of the Episcopal Church, to begin an audit of all Indigenous peoples whose ancestral and territorial homelands its churches and buildings now occupy before the 81st General Convention; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That each Diocese of the Episcopal Church be asked, before the 81st General Convention, to begin dialogue with representatives from those Indigenous peoples whose ancestral and territorial homelands its churches and buildings now occupy to collaborate in the development of appropriate land acknowledgement liturgies and prayers; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That each Diocese of the Episcopal Church in North America be asked, before the 81st General Convention, to begin a process of implementing land acknowledgement liturgies and prayers to begin any public meetings or worship and to provide resources to their churches to do the same; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church commits to ensuring that all public gatherings and worship of The Episcopal Church, its boards, commissions, committees of the same, will, before the 81st General Convention, implement land acknowledgement liturgies and prayers to begin any public meetings or worship held in North America; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention appropriate at least \$100,000 to support these efforts.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 861.



**Resolution Number:** 2022-D005  
**Title:** Implement the Internalized Oppression Curriculum  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance allocate \$73,800 for the triennium for the implementation of The Internalized Oppression Curriculum, Healing From Internalized Oppression; and be it further*

*Resolved, That such monies shall be utilized exclusively to make presentations to agencies and dioceses and other affiliated entities of The Episcopal Church, and other such activities that promote the purposes of this resolution; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this General Convention direct, consistent with established policies and procedures, that The Executive Council shall direct that the Office of Black Ministries be charged with the establishment of all criteria, and procedures associated with implementation of the Curriculum, and that the Office of Black Ministries shall report back to the General Convention in 2024 on the usage of the \$73,800 allocation; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Joint Standing Committee on Program Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$73,800 for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), pp. 862-863.



**Resolution Number:** 2022-D019  
**Title:** Acknowledge Indigenous Lands at DFMS Gatherings  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention shall promote the acknowledgment of Indigenous Lands at all gatherings within the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (TEC) and its affiliate organizations; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Standing Committee on Programs, Budgets, and Finance allocate an additional amount up to \$50,000 per year to fund the implementation of this resolution under the guidance of the Indigenous Ministries Office to conduct research, to provide training, and to assist dioceses and churches in their efforts to identify and acknowledge Indigenous lands in their local areas.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 818.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-A044  
**Title:** Set Essential Components of Anti-Racism or Racial Reconciliation Training  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 79th General Convention recognizes that widely different criteria have been used across the Church to determine if the completion of anti-racism training required in Title III and resolution 2000-B049 has been satisfied; and be it further*  
*Resolved, that The Episcopal Church recognizes that in order to maintain a common theological framework in our commitment to dismantle the sin of racism that these specific components are essential to include in any Episcopal Anti-racism or Racial Reconciliation training:*

- 1) Liturgy, preferably a celebration of Eucharist when possible or other corporate worship, grounding the work in scripture and spiritual formation  
(Proclaiming the Dream of Beloved Community)
- 2) An Historical Component—including but not limited to (and, as appropriate to the context where the training is offered): The Episcopal Church’s role in slavery, its history with segregation and discrimination of people of color, the Doctrine of Discovery, The Episcopal Church’s role in taking indigenous children from their families through our participation in the boarding school system, and the Church’s responses to racism through the years.  
(Telling the Truth about the Church and Race)
- 3) An Information or Didactic Component—including, but not limited to: the Baptismal Covenant, power, class, race, racism, internalized racial privilege, internalized racial oppression, implicit racial bias, intercultural awareness and communication, becoming co-conspirators in dismantling racism, and envisioning racial reconciliation.  
(Repairing the Breach)
- 4) Engagement—including, but not limited to: establishing respectful communication guidelines, discussion, Bible Study, and other activities as indicated to accomplish learning objectives for these components.  
(Practicing the Way of Love);

And be it further

*Resolved, that the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism continue to collect and develop, in collaboration with the staff, Christian Formation professionals, and The Absalom Jones Episcopal Center for Racial Healing, resources and best practices for dismantling racism that can be shared online to aide in the consistent fulfillment of the requirement for anti-racism training for lay and ordained leaders across the Church.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 668.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-A045  
**Title:** Reaffirm and Report on Anti-Racism Training  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That we acknowledge that not all dioceses have followed the spirit of the anti-racism training required in Title III or General Convention Resolution 2000-B049 regarding training of all ordained persons and lay leadership; and be it further*

*Resolved, That we acknowledge that the work of dismantling racism is an essential part of spiritual formation; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 79th General Convention re-affirms the necessity and importance of anti-racism training for the lay and ordained leadership of The Episcopal Church, including all ordained persons, professional staff, and those elected or appointed to committees, commissions, agencies, task forces, and boards; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism and The Episcopal Church staff, The Absalom Jones Episcopal Center for Racial Healing and Christian Formation professionals be encouraged to work together to continue to expand the resources available for trainings that can be adapted to different contexts and that address the multiplicity and intersectionality of oppressions that exist in society, and maintain online a recommended list of curricula and programs as they are developed, that could be used for anti-racism training and for training facilitators; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the lay and ordained leadership of The Episcopal Church are also expected to engage in ongoing spiritual formation and education focused on racial healing, justice, and reconciliation as part of our Church's commitment to Becoming Beloved Community; and be it further*

*Resolved, That each committee, commission, agency, task force, and board, and each province and diocese maintain a register of those who have participated in training, and annually report to the Executive Council through the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism by January 1 each year, how many people have participated in training and what other Becoming Beloved Community formation opportunities have been offered and that the Council report on this information to future General Conventions until such time as the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism or its succeeding body determines it is no longer necessary.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 669.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-D016  
**Title:** Create a Task Force for Women, Truth, and Reconciliation  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved,* That the 79th General Convention as members of the Body of Christ, confess our sins of gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms as we understand these sins, which include, but are not limited to, sexual and gender harassment, sexual assault, physically, spiritually, and emotionally abusive behavior, and oppression based on gender, particularly as these sins have denigrated and devalued women and their ministries; acknowledge that within our patriarchal culture, the misuse of power and authority is primarily exercised by men with the vast majority of victims being women; acknowledge that we have created a culture of excuses, justifications, enabling, and dishonesty around gender-based discrimination and violence; have not heard the experiences of women with the goal of justice through acts of contrition, restoration, and reconciliation; declare that we as the Church seek to turn from the systems of oppression, patriarchy, ableism, heteronormativity, white supremacy, and our colonial legacy, among others, and seek to engage in restoration of the dignity of women and reconciliation from past acts, beginning with confessing to God and to one another the truth that we have not loved God with our whole heart, and mind, and strength, and that we have not loved, respected, and honored the presence, gifts, equality, and ministry of women, seeing in them the presence of Christ; confess that we have embraced patriarchal power, and in doing so, have exploited women and been blind to injustice and prejudice; and declare that we seek to repent and be restored to God and to each other, with the Church and each diocese declaring a period of fasting and repentance for this sin; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the 79th General Convention authorize the establishment of a Task Force for Women, Truth, and Reconciliation for the purpose of helping the Church engage in truth-telling, confession, and reconciliation regarding gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms by those in power in the Church, making an accounting of things done and left undone in thought, word, and deed, intending amendment of life, and seeking counsel, direction, and absolution as we are restored in love, grace, and trust with each other through Christ; and be it further

*Resolved,* That this Task Force be appointed jointly by the President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop, with 15 members - 6 lay people (at least 4 of whom identify as women), 6 priests or deacons members (at least 4 of whom identify as women), and 3 bishops members (at least 2 of whom identify as women). The overall composition of this task force shall include members of the LGBTQ community, people of color, and reflect regional diversity. The overall composition of this task force shall include at least 5 members who have experienced gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls and at least 3 members who have personal and recent (within the last 5 years) experience working with complaints within the general Church and/or secular community on matters of gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls. This Task Force shall report its progress to Executive Council, present a public timeline, summary of ongoing work easily accessible by members of the Episcopal Church, and report back to the 80th General Convention on the following tasks:

**-To develop a survey on gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms as we understand these sins, which include, but are not limited to, sexual and gender harassment, sexual assault, physical, spiritual, and emotionally abusive behavior, and oppression based on gender. This survey shall be modeled on the survey used to gather information and compile the 2017 report “Sexual Misconduct in the United Methodist Church: US Update,” and the task force shall create said survey no later than December of 2019 and shall work with appropriate general Church organizations, dioceses, and church leadership, both lay and clergy, to distribute widely in the Episcopal Church for access by both laity and clergy no later than spring of 2020, said survey being available primarily on-line, and with adaptations made as determined by the task force to enable responses by those members of the general Church who may not have ready and easy access to the internet;**

**-To conduct a review of survey responses and data regarding gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violent behavior that has been experienced by those who identify as women in our church; and present this information in accessible, public, and informative ways as a truthful reality of the treatment of women; and the impact of this treatment on lay and ordained women and girls, their ministries, and the ministry of the Church to the following members and organizations of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America: The House of Bishops, The Executive Council, The National Association of Episcopal Schools; all Episcopal Seminaries (including diocesan formation programs for ordination); Episcopal Camps and Conference Centers; Diocesan Youth Directors; all Canons to the Ordinary; all Transition Officers; all diocesan Chancellors; and any other bodies, organizations, or committees that the President of the House of Deputies or the Presiding Bishop deem necessary;**

**-To coordinate and receive reports from the aforementioned persons and organizations no later than six months after the publication of the survey response report with the following written responses to the report, a copy of the same responses shared with the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies: How their body and/or institution has contributed to a church culture of gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms, when appropriate detailing specific examples of this culture that has approved of this behavior, ignored and/or excused this behavior, and how this culture has damaged the body and/or institution; The body and/or institution’s plan of action within their body or institution that can bring about a culture of truth telling, repentance, reconciliation, and justice in our church; including a timeline of said plan of action; and any other questions the task force, in consultation with the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies, deem helpful and necessary for the general Church to confess the truth of the impact of the sin of gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms and to engage the process of restoration and reconciliation;**

**-To create a Truth and Reconciliation process to guide churches, dioceses, provinces, and the general Church as they develop their own paths for reconciliation and restoration, with emphasis given to discerning the *qualities* of methods churches, dioceses, provinces, and the general Church may implement to witness the truth and to seek justice, restoration, and reconciliation; recognizing a one-size-fits-all process will not be helpful given the diversity of our Church, and that identifying qualities for a process invites churches, dioceses, provinces, and general Church to map their ways forward to justice, restoration, and reconciliation with guidance;**

**-To conduct a comprehensive audit and analysis of the internal church-wide structures that exist, or are needed, to educate and inform the church about realities and consequences of gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms; to develop programs to proactively reduce incidences of gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence within the church; as well as to develop resources that build the capacity of our church to provide trauma informed pastoral care for victims;**

**-To oversee an audit done by an outside auditor of the culture within church-wide structures to identify systemic expressions of power and leadership that create and continue gender-based discrimination, harassment, and violence against women and girls in all their forms, particularly the impact of this system as it manifests in access to leadership, pay inequity, imbalances in power, inequality in leadership, gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment and violence, and the enabling of gender-based violence by those in positions of power throughout the church that diminishes, excuses, and discounts discrimination, abuse, and harassment, contrary to the Gospel of Christ.**

And be it further

***Resolved*, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$320,000 for the implementation of this resolution which will provide funding for regular meetings, including bi-annual in-person meetings throughout the triennium (\$150,000); costs associated with creating and distributing the survey and subsequent reports (\$40,000) contract with external firm to conduct a culture audit (\$65,000); website, communications, and staff support (\$50,000); and expenses associated with in-person presentations of findings to strategic groups, including Executive Council, the House of Bishops, and other groups as determined by the Task Force, the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies (\$15,000).**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 937-939.





**Resolution Number:** 2015-C019  
**Title:** Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church confesses that, despite repeated efforts at anti-racism training as well as racial justice and racial reconciliation initiatives including the passage of more than 30 General Convention resolutions dating back to 1952, the abomination and sin of racism continue to plague our society and our Church at great cost to human life and human dignity; we formally acknowledge our historic and contemporary participation in this evil and repent of it; and be it further*

*Resolved, That in the wake of the brutal, overtly racist murders of nine of our Christian brothers and sisters of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church on June 17, 2015; numerous inexcusable deaths of unarmed black men and youth at the hands of law enforcement personnel; and the moral atrocity of mass incarceration in which a hugely disproportionate number of persons of color have been unfairly caught in the net of an unjust criminal justice system, the 78th General Convention affirms as a top priority of The Episcopal Church in the upcoming triennium the challenging and difficult work of racial reconciliation through prayer, teaching, engagement, and action; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Church understands and affirms that the call to pray and act for racial reconciliation is integral to our witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to our living into the demands of our Baptismal Covenant; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Presiding Bishop, President of the House of Deputies, Vice President of the House of Bishops, and Vice President of the House of Deputies be charged to lead, direct, and be present to assure and account for the Church's work of racial justice and reconciliation; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$1.2 million for the Triennium for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 310-311.



**Resolution Number:** 2009-D035  
**Title:** Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention repudiates and renounces the Doctrine of Discovery as fundamentally opposed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and our understanding of the inherent rights that individuals and peoples have received from God, and that this declaration be proclaimed among our churches and shared with the United Nations and all the nations and peoples located within The Episcopal Church's boundaries. This doctrine, which originated with Henry VII in 1496, held that Christian sovereigns and their representative explorers could assert dominion and title over non-Christian lands with the full blessing and sanction of the Church. It continues to be invoked, in only slightly modified form, in court cases and in the many destructive policies of governments and other institutions of the modern nation-state that lead to the colonizing dispossession of the lands of indigenous peoples and the disruption of their way of life; and be it further*

*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church review its policies and programs with a view to exposing the historical reality and impact of the Doctrine of Discovery and eliminating its presence in its contemporary policies, program and structures and, further, that this body directs the appropriate representatives of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies, to inform all relevant governmental bodies in the United States of its action and suggest similar and equivalent review of historical and contemporary policies that contribute to the continuing colonization of Indigenous Peoples and, further, to write to Queen Elizabeth II, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, requesting that her Majesty disavow, and repudiate publicly, the claimed validity of the Christian Doctrine of Discovery; and be it further*

*Resolved, That each diocese within The Episcopal Church be encouraged to reflect upon its own history, in light of these actions and encourage all Episcopalians to seek a greater understanding of the Indigenous Peoples within the geo-political boundaries claimed by the United States and other nation states located within The Episcopal Church's boundaries, and to support those peoples in their ongoing efforts for their inherent sovereignty and fundamental human rights as peoples to be respected; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 76th General Convention direct the Office of Government Relations to advocate for the U.S. government's endorsement of the "United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," which the United States has refused to endorse (only the U.S., Canada, New Zealand and Australia have failed to sign on).*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 371-372.