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ECUMENICAL ASSOCIATION OF THIRD WORLD THEOLOGIANS  
ASOCIACIÓN ECUMÉNICA DE TEÓLOGOS/AS DEL TERCER MUNDO

# VOICES



**RELIGIONS ET PEACE**

EATWOT AT WFTL

**RELIGIONS ET PAIX**

L'EATWOT AU FMTL

**RELIGIONES Y PAZ**

LA EATWOT EN EL FMTL

ISSUE EDITED BY EATWOT'S INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL COMMISSION

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A EATWOT NO FMTL**

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# Presentation

This edition of VOICES places at the disposition of the public a variety of reflections presented and/or coordinated by EATWOT as part of its participation in the World Forum on Theology and Liberation (FMTL), which took place February 6-11, 2011. These reflections were presented during the Forum.

In the first place, the current issue treats of the workshop on “Religions and Peace,” which did not focus—as is usually the case for this topic—on violence and religious-political violence, but rather on “the theology required so that religions can live in peace and collaborate for the Common Good of Humanity and the planet,” that is say, toward a theology of religious pluralism.

Over a period of two months prior to the Forum, the workshop produced and placed on the internet, in digital form, material aimed at making it possible for anyone, any community or institution, to be able to participate on-line from any part of the world. This “digital material” was and is fundamentally a “foundational documentation for the debate,” It was prepared in four languages, French being the first among them, since the country in which the World Social Forum was to take place was francophone. In order to develop this “base document” EATWOT invited the world’s best-known experts on the theme of religious pluralism and asked them to prepare short, very pedagogical, almost schematic, contributions. Intended to be presented as theses to be debated, they were then translated and placed on the internet. All these contributions from experts, which have a permanent quality and value beyond the workshop that took place during the FMTL, are gathered together and made available for the future in this issue of VOICES.

As planned, on February 8, 2011 the workshop actually took place as an activity organized by the FMTL within the programming of the World Social Forum. There, in open debate, panelists presented their ideas, which are now published here.

Within the planned objectives of having a dialogue with experts on “the theology or new vision required for religions to live together,” EATWOT did not fail to make its own position public. It published a

document of its Theological Commission on “Religions, Pluralism and Peace.” This too is officially published here and made available publicly in five languages.

The current issue of VOICES also gathers together various other contributions from members of EATWOT in other activities of the FMTL along with others we are publishing for their special importance. EATWOT is actively subscribing to the hope that theology achieve the principal objective that the FMTL wished to bring about: a first attempt at setting out a “theological agenda” for Liberating Theology—in all its forms and currents—on a planetary level. In all modesty, we believe that this objective was far from being achieved. Nevertheless, the very fact of having put it forward for the first time in history shows, without a doubt, that we are entering that stage in which theology must recognize the need to work with a planetary community and awareness, and quite clearly without abandoning specific tasks, we need to take up with determination collective theological projects that are on the edge have a “planetary” vision and that press theology beyond its tired domestic references.

EATWOT has already reflected broadly on these perspectives regarding the future of theology and on what a “pluralist, inter-religious, lay, planetary theology might mean concretely. It has incorporated many other theologians in this preoccupation for advancing toward the future. The fifth and final volume of the series “Along the Many Paths of God,” entitled “Toward a Planetary Theology,” was published barely a year ago and is available on the internet as a witness to this fact.

Even though we did not achieve the objective we had proposed, EATWOT congratulates the FMTL for having, for the first time, proposed to work toward it and to collaborate in the effort to be transformed by it as well as to transform the current theological reflection, “toward a planetary theology.” Faithful to its vocation, which has been, since its foundation, that of being a world forum for liberation theology, *avant la lettre*, EATWOT intends to renew its theological agenda with determination in its next General Assembly, to be celebrated in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, next September. There it will produce a theological agenda for the coming years, one that is filled with theological initiatives and projects with a “planetary” vision and that will provide continuity with the hope that we have all placed in the realization of the recent FMTL, a hope that is witnessed clearly in this issue of VOICES.

We will speak more of that in the next issue of VOICES.

**José María VIGIL**  
**International Theological Commission**



# Presentación

Esta edición de VOICES pone a disposición pública diversos materiales producidos y/o coordinados por EATWOT para su participación en el FMTL, Foro Mundial de Teología y Liberación, del 6 al 11 de febrero de 2011, donde fueron presentados y realizados.

En primer lugar se trata del taller «Religiones y Paz», que no estaba enfocado -como suele ser habitual en este tema- hacia la violencia y los conflictos religioso-políticos, sino hacia «la teología necesaria para que las religiones puedan convivir en paz y colaborar al Bien Común de la Humanidad y del planeta», es decir, hacia la teología del pluralismo religioso.

El taller produjo, y logró poner en internet con dos meses de anticipación a su fecha, un «material telemático», con el fin de posibilitar que cualquier persona, comunidad o institución pudieran participar en línea, desde cualquier parte del mundo. Ese «material telemático» era, es, fundamentalmente, un «documento base para el debate», en cuatro idiomas, siendo el primero de ellos el francés, puesto que francófono es el país en el que se iba a desarrollar el FSM. Para elaborar ese «documento base» EATWOT invitó a los más reconocidos expertos mundiales en el tema del Pluralismo Religioso, y les pidió unas aportaciones cortas, muy pedagógicas, casi esquemáticas, en forma de tesis para ser debatidas, que fueron traducidas y disponibilizadas en internet. Todas esas aportaciones de los expertos, que tienen una calidad y un valor permanente más allá del taller realizado en el FMTL, quedan recogidas y disponibilizadas para el futuro en este número de VOICES.

El día 8 de febrero de 2011 tuvo lugar, efectivamente, la realización del taller, como una actividad organizada por el FMTL en el seno del FSM, tal como estaba previsto. Allí, antes del debate abierto, se presentaron unas ponencias, que aquí quedan también recogidas.

Dentro de la finalidad pretendida de realizar un diálogo con los expertos sobre «la teología o nueva visión necesaria para la convivencia entre las religiones», la EATWOT no quiso dejar de manifestar su posición, haciendo público un documento de su Comisión Teológica sobre

«Religiones, Pluralismo y Paz». Queda aquí también recogido, como publicación oficial, y públicamente disponibilizado, en cinco idiomas.

Este número de VOICES recoge también otras varias participaciones de miembros de la EATWOT en otras actividades del FMTL, junto a otras que recogemos también por su especial importancia. EATWOT se suma activamente a la esperanza de que la teología consiga el objetivo principal que el FMTL quería realizar: un primer intento de marcar una «agenda teológica» para la Teología Liberadora -en todas sus formas y corrientes-, a nivel planetario. Creemos modestamente que este objetivo quedó lejos de ser alcanzado. Pero, sin duda, el habérselo propuesto por primera vez en la historia, ya muestra que estamos entrando a esa etapa en la que la teología debe plantearse la necesidad de trabajar con una conciencia comunitaria-planetaria, y que, sin abandonar, obviamente, los trabajos particulares, debemos acometer con decisión proyectos teológicos colectivos, de frontera, con visión «planetaria», que hagan avanzar a la teología más allá de sus desgastadas referencias domésticas.

EATWOT ya ha reflexionado ampliamente sobre estas perspectivas de futuro de la teología, sobre lo que puede significar concretamente esa «teología pluralista, inter-religiosa, laica, planetaria»... y ha incorporado a otros/as muchos/as teólogos/as a esta preocupación por avanzar hacia el futuro. El quinto y último libro de la serie «Por los muchos caminos de Dios», titulado «Hacia una teología planetaria», aparecido hace escasamente un año -y públicamente disponible en internet- está ahí para testimoniarlo.

Aunque no haya sido conseguido el objetivo propuesto, EATWOT se congratula de que el FMTL se haya planteado por primera vez el alcanzarlo, y se propone colaborar en el esfuerzo por transformarse a sí misma y por transformar la reflexión teológica actual, «hacia una teología planetaria». Fiel a su vocación, que ha sido, desde su fundación, la de ser un Foro Mundial para la teología de la Liberación, *avant la lettre*, EATWOT se propone renovar decididamente su agenda teológica en su próxima Asamblea General, a celebrarse en Yoghyakarta, Indonesia, el próximo mes de septiembre, elaborando una agenda teológica para los próximos años, llena de iniciativas y proyectos teológicos, de visión «planetaria», que darán continuidad a la esperanza que todos hemos puesto en la realización de este pasado FMTL, esperanza de la que da testimonio claro este número de VOICES.

De ello hablará el próximo número de esta revista VOICES.

**José María VIGIL**  
**Comisión Teológica Internacional**