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Compiled & Edited by Crosswalk News Staff

Daily briefs of the top news stories impacting Christians around the world. In today's edition:

“Anti-Christian Spirit” Spreading Through Europe

Wolfgang Polzer, ASSIST News Service

An “anti-Christian spirit” is spreading throughout Europe, according to one of Germany’s best-known evangelical theologians. Prof. Peter Beyerhaus regards the proposed anti-discrimination laws in several European countries as only one example for such “threatening tendencies”. The missiologist was speaking at the Theological Convention of the Conference of Confessing Churches that took place in Neuendettelsau near Nuremberg earlier this month. In his view a “mild form of persecution” is taking place in the European Union (EU). One of the victims was the Italian politician Rocco Buttiglione. The Catholic philosopher was nominated last year as EU commissioner, but Social Democrats, Greens and Liberals in the European Parliament rejected him because of his ethical and religious convictions. Buttiglione called homosexuality a sin. But he emphasized that this was his personal conviction as a Christian and that he would respect European law and not discriminate against homosexuals. Beyerhaus: “That goes to show that today attitude and not action is the determining factor for the assessment of an individual.”