

Religion, State and Law

December 2nd and 3rd 2021, Online

Preliminary Programme

December 2nd

1. Religion and (De-)Secularization

The panel will elaborate on the relations between religion and the secular state from the perspective of the state as well as from the perspective of religion.

1. Kristina Stoeckl (Universität Innsbruck)

Recontesting Secularism in Europe: The Role of Orthodox Christianity

2. Tariq Modood (University of Bristol)

Multiculturalising Secularism

3. Ahmet Kuru (San Diego State University)

Religions and Secular States: Diverse Models from the West to the Muslim World

Chair: Joseph Marko

2. Fundamentalism

The panel will critically reflect the phenomenon of fundamentalism in the secular state from the perspective of ideological and religious fundamentalisms.

1. Rüdiger Lohker (Universität Wien)

Islamic Fundamentalism Revisited - beyond Islamism, Extremism, and Political Islam

2. Eileen Barker (LSE)

Protection or Persecution? The State, the Law, and Minority Religions

3. Katharina Limacher (Universität Wien)

Fundamentalisms old and new? Inter-denominational alliances in a New Christian Right in Austria

Chair: Franz Winter

3. Religion, Conflict and Transnational Relations

The panel will discuss processes of politicization of religion and their role in conflict settings. In doing so, the focus lies on translocal, transnational and international dynamics.

1. Carlo Aldrovandi (Trinity College Dublin)

The transnational ramifications of the Temple Mount & Haram al-Sharif Dispute: Muslim and Christian Evangelical Perspectives

2. Dino Abazovic (University of Sarajevo)

Historicizing the Secularization Debate: The Case of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a Country in Transition

3. Regina Polak (Universität Wien/OSCE)

Socio-religious Conflicts in a Period of Religious Decline: Challenges for the Interreligious Dialogue

Chair: Maximilian Lakitsch

4. Gender

The panel will critically reflect processes of the construction of gender in various religious traditions. Furthermore, it will discuss related modern dynamics of transformation based on feminist theology.

1. Dina El Omari (Universität Münster)

To whom belongs the female body? Critical reflections on male authority over the female body

2. Henriette Dahan Kalev (Ben Gurion University)

Canon and Tradition Transitions - The Case of Gender in Israel

3. Michaela Quast-Neulinger (Universität Innsbruck)

Whose order? Whose authority? The transformations of the new axial age and its consequences for religious constructions of sex, gender and family

Chair: Kerstin Wonisch

December 3rd

5. State, Law and Religion

The panel will discuss social dynamics between members of differing religious denomination within a secular state as well as corresponding governance models.

1. Jocelyne Cesari (University of Birmingham)

Beyond the State Law versus God's Law dilemma: A genealogical approach to Islamic concepts of Law, politics and sovereignty

2. Alessandro Ferrari (University of Insubria)

Religious Diversity, Religious Freedom and Secularism: what the European veil(s) reveal(s)

3. Mikhail Antonov (HSE St. Petersburg)

Russian conservatism and human rights in Europe

Chair: Joseph Marko

6. Interreligious Dialogue and Movements: Transnational and International Perspectives

The panel will deal with aspects of interreligious dialogue and peace initiatives from a transnational and international perspective. It will elaborate on their international nature based on their similarities and differences.

1. Viola Raheb (Universität Wien)

Empowering women in Interreligious and intercultural dialogue – reflections on Austrian-MENA initiatives

2. Patrice Brodeur (University of Montreal & KAICIID Wien)

The contemporary transnational geopolitics of interreligious dialogue

3. Mohammed Abu-Nimer (American University Washington & KAICIID Wien)

IRD in a pandemic reality – between priority and luxury

Chair: Ulrike Bechmann

7. Religion and Education

The panel will discuss challenges of religious pluralism for religious education and related legal issues. Therefore, it seeks to add an interreligious perspective to the debate on religious education in the European context.

1. Zekirija Sejdini (Universität Wien/Innsbruck)

The pluralistic society as a challenge for Islamic education - an Austrian example

2. Manfred Pirner (Friedrich Alexander Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Human Rights and Religious Education in Pluralistic Societies. Re-visiting John Rawls and Jürgen Habermas

3. Andrea Lehner-Hartmann (Universität Wien)

The question of truth within the context of (religious) plurality: a challenge for religious education

Chair: Wolfgang Weirer