

Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis:

WHY CAN'T WE GET ALONG?



TALLINN, ESTONIA | 16-18 JUNE 2016

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis: Why Can't We Get Along?

TALLINN, ESTONIA | 16-18 JUNE 2016

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2016

18.30–20.00 Opening Session (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided)

18.30–19.00

Welcome: **Prof. Dr. Lauri Mälksoo**, Professor of International Law, Head of the Department of Public Law, University of Tartu, School of Law, Estonia

Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Clark, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University, USA

Dr. Merilin Kiviorg, Senior Research Fellow in Public International Law, University of Tartu, School of Law, Estonia

19.00–20.00

Keynote: **Prof. Dr. Silvio Ferrari**, Professor of Law and Religion, University of Milan, Italy |
“The Decline of Europe and Its Impact on Freedom of Religion”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Jerry Pankhurst**, Professor of Sociology, Wittenberg University, USA

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Sophie van Bijsterveld**, **Prof. Dr. Ingo Richter**, and **Prof. Jay Wexler**

20.00–22.00 Reception for All Participants (Nordic Hotel)

FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2016

08.30–09.00 Registration

09.00–10.00 Plenary Session: “Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis: The Secular State as a Gate and Peace Keeper?” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 25 min. each)

Keynote: **Prof. Dr. Sophie van Bijsterveld**, Professor of Religion, Law, and Society, Radboud University, the Netherlands |
“Times of Crisis and Change: Revisualizing the Role of the State Toward Religion”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Bülent Şenay**, Professor of History of Religion and Culture, Head of the Chair of History of Religion, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, Uludağ University, Turkey; Member of OSCE Advisory Council for Freedom of Religion

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Silvio Ferrari**, **Dr. Alar Kilp**, and **Prof. Dr. Renáta Uitz**

10.00–10.30 Coffee Break

10.30–12.00 Breakout Sessions

Session 1 “Freedom of Religion or Belief in the Conflict Zone” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Dr. Vladimir D. Vardanyan**, Head of Legal Advisory Service, Constitutional Court of Armenia |

“Prevention and Condemnation of Persecutions of Religious Groups During Contemporary Armed Conflicts: Conventional Solutions and Modern Developments”

Dr. Dmytro Vovk, Associate Professor, Yaroslav the Wise National Law University, Ukraine |

“War and Peace and Religion: Religious Freedom in the Situation of the Ukrainian-Russian Conflict”

Prof. Dr. Viktor Yelensky, Member of Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine and Head of Parliament’s Subcommittee for Freedom of Conscience |

“Religious Freedom in Time of War and Anxiety: The Case of Ukraine”

Archpriest Dr. George (Iurii) Kovalenko |

“Problems of the Making of the Ukrainian Secular State of a Nonatheistic Kind”

Moderator: **Dr. Kishan Manocha**, OSCE/ODIHR Senior Adviser on Freedom of Religion and Belief

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Olesia Otradnova**, **Dr. Hovhannes Hovhannisyan**, and **Prof. Dr. Jerry Pankhurst**

Session 2 “Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis: The Secular State as a Gate and Peace Keeper?” (“Capella” room; in English, no translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Dr. Piotr Szymaniec**, Vice Director of the Institute of Socio-Legal Studies, The Angelus Silesius University of Applied Science in Wałbrzych, Poland |

“Legal Philosophy, State Neutrality, and the Restrictions on Religious Freedom”

Dr. Andriy Yurash, Director of the Department for Religious Affairs and Nationalities of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine |

“Rights, Obligations, and Scopes of the State’s Intervention into the Religious Sphere”

Mr. Ammar Younas, PhD candidate, International and Comparative Politics Department, American University of Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan |

“Replacing the Old with New: ‘Social Sacrifice Theory’ Instead of ‘Social Contract Theory’”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Silvio Ferrari**, Professor of Law and Religion, University of Milan, Italy

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Mikhail Antonov**, **Dr. Vanja-Ivan Savić**, and **Prof. Dr. Roman Podoprighora**

Session 3 **“Freedom of Religion or Belief of Refugees and Migrants”** (“Arcturus” room; in English, no translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Prof. Tymen van der Ploeg**, Professor Emeritus of Civil Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands |
“Availability of ‘Status’ as Religious Institution for Religious Communities of Migrants”

Dr. Adriaan Overbeeke, Faculty of Law, Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands |
“Managing New Religious Diversities in Plural(ising) Societies and Defining the State’s Role: The Contribution of Post-Communist Countries in Developing a Fine-Grained and Robust ECtHR-Approach; Fruitful for the Future?”

Dr. Roberta Medda-Windischer, Senior Researcher and Group Leader for National Minorities, Migration, and Cultural Diversity at the Institute for Minority Rights of the European Academy of Bolzano/Bozen, Italy |
“The Contribution of the European Court of Human Rights to the Accommodation of Contemporary Religious Diversity”

Moderator: **Dr. Alar Kilp**, Lecturer in Comparative Politics, Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, University of Tartu, Estonia

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Ingo Richter, Prof. Dr. Renáta Uitz, and Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Clark**

12.00–13.00 **Lunch**

13.00–14.30 **Plenary Session: “Accommodation of Diversity”** (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 20 min. each)

Keynotes: **Prof. Dr. Renáta Uitz**, Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law, Department of Legal Studies, Central European University, Hungary |
“Negotiating Conscience Claims: From the Impossible to the Inevitable”

Dr. Halliki Voolma, PhD, University of Cambridge; Terve Eesti Foundation, Estonia |
“‘God Says So’: Religious Freedom in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence Against Migrant Women in the UK and Sweden”

Mr. Willy Fautré, Director of Human Rights Without Frontiers International, Belgium |
“Islamic Minorities: A New Global Challenge to Religious Freedom”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Jeroen Temperman**, Professor of Public International Law, Department of International Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Discussants: **Prof. Lev Simkin, Dr. Adriaan Overbeeke, Dr. Alar Kilp, and Prof. Dr. Ringo Ringvee**

14.30–15.00 **Coffee Break**

15.00–16.15 Breakout Sessions

Session 1 “Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis: The Secular State as a Gate and Peace Keeper?” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Prof. Dr. Sergey A. Belov**, Associate Professor, Director of the Institute of Official Language, St. Petersburg State University, Russia |
“Religion in Public Space: Religious Speech in Official Documents in Russia”

Dr. Vanja-Ivan Savić, Assistant Professor of Law, Head of Legal Theory Department, University of Zagreb, Croatia |
“Could We Be a Postsecular, Please? A Positive Example of Religious Regulation in Croatia”

Prof. Dr. Roman Podoprigora, Professor of Law, Caspian University, Kazakhstan |
“Kazakhstani State: Promoter or Inspector of Religious Life”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Viktor Yelensky**, Member of Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine and Head of Parliament’s Subcommittee for Freedom of Conscience

Discussants: **Dr. Piotr Szymaniec**, **Dr. Roberta Medda-Windischer**, and **Prof. Lev Simkin**

Session 2 “Freedom of Religion or Belief in the Conflict Zone” (“Capella” room; in English, no translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Prof. Dr. Olesia Otradnova**, Vice Dean for Research and International Relations, Professor of Civil Law Department, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine |
“Crimea: The New Challenge for Freedom of Religion”

Prof. Krystyna Bleszynska, University of Life Sciences in Warsaw, Poland, and **Dr. Marek Szopski**, English Institute, University of Warsaw, Poland |
“Freedom of Religion as a Conflict Zone: Politicization of Religion and Belief in Contemporary Poland”

Ms. Naira Sahakyan, PhD candidate, Chair of Arabic Studies, Yerevan State University, Armenia |
“The Prohibition of Religious Symbols of Ahl al-Kitab in the Territories Controlled by Islamic State”

Moderator: **Dr. Andriy Yurash**, Director of the Department for Religious Affairs and Nationalities of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine

Discussants: **Dr. Dmytro Vovk**, **Dr. Vladimir D. Vardanyan**, and **Prof. Dr. Bülent Şenay**

16.15–17.45 Plenary Session: “Education as an Antidote Against Religious Hatred?” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 20 min. each)

Keynotes: **Prof. Dr. Ingo Richter**, Professor Emeritus of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Honorary Professor Paris West University Nanterre La Défense and University of Tübingen; Chairman of the Irmgard Coninx Foundation, Germany |

“State-Church Coordination in Education Under Pressure”

Prof. Jay Wexler, Professor of Law, Boston University, USA |

“The Educative Function of Religion in the Public Square”

Prof. Dr. Olga Schihalejev, Associate Professor (Docent) in Religious Education, University of Tartu, Estonia; Researcher, School of Historical and Contemporary Studies, Södertörn University, Sweden |

“Religion in the School Context: Freedom from or of Religion?”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Jan de Groof**, Professor at the College of Europe (Belgium) and at Tilburg University (the Netherlands); Holder of the UNESCO Chair on the Right to Education

Discussants: **Dr. Maria Smirnova, Dr. Martin Browne, and Dr. Leni Franken**

19.00 Dinner for Speakers and Invited Guests (Nordic Hotel)

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 2016

09.00–10.30 Plenary Session: “Hate Speech and Migration” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 25 min. each)

Keynotes: **Prof. Dr. Bülent Şenay**, Uludağ University, Bursa, Turkey; OSCE Member of Advisory Council on Freedom of Religion |
“Reflexive Fusion of Horizons and Intercultural Citizenship Against Securitisation of Religious Freedom”

Prof. Dr. Jeroen Temperman, Professor of Public International Law, Department of International Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands |
“Religious Hatred, Freedom of Expression, and International Law”

Moderator: **Dr. Merilin Kiviorg**, Senior Research Fellow in Public International Law, University of Tartu, School of Law, Estonia

Discussants: **Dr. Susan Kerr, Prof. Olga Kudriashova, and Prof. Dr. Sergey A. Belov**

10.30–11.00 Coffee Break

11.00–12.30 Breakout Sessions

Session 1 “Education as an Antidote Against Religious Hatred?” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Mr. Enrique Montes Pérez**, President of the Association of Miraisme International, Switzerland |
“Education About Religions as a Means to Strengthen Respect and Prevent Violent Extremism”

Dr. Hovhannes Hovhannisyan, Department of the History of Religions, Faculty of Theology, Yerevan State Linguistic University, Armenia |
“Challenge to Identity or a Matter of Historical Prevalence? Armenian Church History Subject at Secondary Schools in Armenia”

Moderator: **Dr. Maria Smirnova**, Research Associate, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Jan de Groof, Prof. Jay Wexler, and Dr. Leni Franken**

Session 2 “Hate Speech and Migration” (“Capella” room; in English, no translation; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Dr. Susan Kerr**, Europe Advocacy Manager at Christian Solidarity Worldwide, Belgium |
“The Emancipatory Potential of Freedom of Thought, Conscience, Religion, or Belief and the Challenge of Hate Speech”

Prof. Olga Kudriashova, Associate Professor, Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law, St. Petersburg State University, Russia |
“Identifying Hate Speech in Religious Texts: Should We Distinguish Between Traditional and Non-Traditional Faiths?”

Ms. Maria Achton Thomas, PhD Candidate with the Faculty of Law at National University of Singapore; Visiting Research Scholar at Columbia University, Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life, USA |
“Looking East: Regulating Tolerance Through Expression in a Multicultural Reality: Europe vs. Singapore”

Moderator: **Prof. Krystyna Błeszynska**, University of Life Sciences in Warsaw, Poland

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Bülent Şenay, Prof. Dr./Rev. Thomas-Andreas Pöder, and Prof. Dr. Jeroen Temperman**

Session 3 **“Accommodation of Diversity”** (“Arcturus” room; in English, no translation; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Dr. Alar Kilp**, Lecturer in Comparative Politics, Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, University of Tartu, Estonia |
“European Liberal Secularist Normative Agenda of Protecting Religious, Ethnic, and Sexual Minorities in the Baltic States and South Caucasus States: Promotion of Shared Universal Values or Causing of Crisis?”

Dr. Katre Luhamaa, Research Fellow in International Law, University of Tartu, School of Law, Estonia |
“Utilising Religion-Based Arguments in the UN Treaty Bodies: Reinterpreting the Individual Nature of the Rights of the Child”

Mr. Christos Tsevas, Greek Asylum Appeals Committees, Designated by the National Commission for Human Rights |
“Freedom of Religion or Belief Between the Crossroads of International Refugee Law, International Criminal Law, and International Human Rights Law”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Renáta Uitz**, Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law, Department of Legal Studies, Central European University, Hungary

Discussants: **Mr. Willy Fautré, Dr. Halliki Voolma, and Dr. Dmytro Vovk**

12.30–13.30 Lunch

13.30–14.30 Breakout Sessions

Session 1 **“Interreligious Dialogue: A Solution in Times of Crisis?”** (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Prof. Dr./Rev. Thomas-Andreas Pöder**, Extraordinary Associate Professor of Systematic Theology Institute of Theology of the EELC; Extraordinary Research Fellow in Systematic Theology Faculty of Theology, Estonia |
“Solidary Tolerance: On Conditions for Improving the Dialogue Between Faiths/Worldviews”

Prof. Dr. José Ferrer Sánchez, Professor, Peace and Conflicts Institute, Granada University |
“Religious Dialogue and Mediation in Times of Crisis: Places of Worship, Right to Proselytize, and Hate Speech”

Prof. Dr. Olga Ganina, Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy, Volga Region State University of Service; Postgraduate Study, Samara State University, Russia |
“Preventing Conflicts on the Basis of Interreligious Dialogue: May Civil Religion in Russia Be a Solution? (On the Case of Tolyatti)”

Dr. Saule Sarkenova, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Law at Karaganda State University, Kazakhstan, and **Bakyt Osanova**, Lecturer, International Relations Department; L.N.Gumilyov Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan |
“Interreligious Peace and Dialogue in Kazakhstan: A Model to Follow?”

Moderator: **Dr. Hovhannes Hovhannisyan**, Department of the History of Religions, Faculty of Theology, Yerevan State Linguistic University, Armenia

Discussants: **Dr. Kishan Manocha**, **Dr. Marek Szopski**, and **Prof. Tymen van der Ploeg**

Session 2 **“Education as an Antidote Against Religious Hatred?”** (“Capella” room; in English, no translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Speakers: **Dr. Maria Smirnova**, Research Associate, University of Manchester, United Kingdom |
“The Right to Education of Migrants’ Children in Russia: Minimum Core Obligations or Advanced Protection?”

Dr. Leni Franken, FWO Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Antwerp, Belgium |
“Religious Education in Belgium: The Case of Islam”

Dr. Martin Browne, Associate Researcher, Barrister, Manchester International Law Centre, University of Manchester, United Kingdom |
“Accommodating Religious Beliefs in the Context of Education Across Europe”

Moderator: **Prof. Dr. Ingo Richter**, Professor Emeritus of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Honorary Professor Paris West University Nanterre La Défense and University of Tübingen; Chairman of the Irmgard Coninx Foundation, Germany

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Jan de Groof**, **Prof. Jay Wexler**, and **Prof. Dr. Olga Schihalejev**

14.30–15.00 **Coffee Break**

15.00–16.30 Plenary Session: “Religious Symbols in Public Space” (“Sirius” plenary hall; translation provided; presentations approx. 10 min. each)

Keynotes: **Prof. Dr. Mikhail Antonov**, Law Faculty, Higher School of Economics in St. Petersburg, Russia |

“Religious Symbols in the Interpretation of the RF Constitutional Court”

Dr. Ekaterina Samokhina, Faculty of Law, St. Petersburg University of Humanities and Social Sciences, Russia |

“The Reasoning of Russian Courts in Cases Involving Religious Symbols”

Prof. Dr. Ringo Ringvee, Adviser at the Religious Affairs Department, Estonian Ministry of the Interior; Professor of Comparative Religion, Theological Institute of the Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church |

“Banning Burqas in Public Square: Protecting Whom from What?”

Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Clark, Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University, USA |

“Headscarves Bans, Equal Treatment, and Minority Integration in the Workplace”

Moderator: **Mr. Willy Fautré**, Director of Human Rights Without Frontiers International, Belgium

Discussants: **Prof. Dr. Jerry Pankhurst, Dr. Merilin Kiviorg, Dr. Dmytro Vovk, and Mr. Willy Fautré**

16.30–16.45 Concluding Remarks

Prof. Dr. Elizabeth Clark and Dr. Merilin Kiviorg

17.00–18.30 Excursion in Tallinn Old Town

19.00 Dinner for Speakers and Invited Guests (Nordic Hotel)

