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Alevitisch-Theologische Studien

PROGRAM

International Conference on Alevi Studies I: *Alevi Education*



26–27 JUNE 2026



Dekanatssitzungssaal
Faculty of Catholic Theology
Universitätsring 1 (Staircase 8, 2nd floor)
1010 Vienna



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26 June, Friday

9:20

Opening Address

Kurt Appel, University of Vienna (Austria) – *Opening Address on behalf of the Faculty of Catholic Theology and the Research Centre "Religion and Transformation" (RaT)*

9:30

Opening Remarks

Rıza Yıldırım, University of Vienna (Austria) – *Knowledge Production and Transmission in Alevi Communities: Historical Trajectories, Contemporary Dynamics*

I. Religious Education in Europe and Türkiye

Chair: **Cemal Salman**

10:00

Zekirija Sejđini, University of Vienna (Austria) – *Conventional Religious Education in German-speaking Europe: Tradition, Diversity, and Legitimacy*

10:20

Mustafa Şen, Middle East Technical University (Türkiye) – *Religious Education in Türkiye during the Republican Period*

10:40

Discussion

11:00



Coffee Break

II. Alevi Education in Modern Era I

Chair: **Cem Erdem**

11:10

Nail Elhan, Hitit University Çorum (Türkiye) – *Debates on Religious Education and Curriculum Development among Alevi Communities*

11:30

Hasan Öğütçü, Alevi Eğitim Merkezi "Şah İbrahim Veli" (Germany) – *Integrating Alevi Religious Education into the German School System: Recognition and Institutionalization*

11:50

Dilek Bozkaya, KPH/University of Vienna (Austria) – *Alevi Religious Education in Austria: From State Recognition to Integration into the School System*

12:10

Discussion

12:30



Break/Lunch

III. Alevi Education in Modern Era II

Chair: **Nail Elhan**

13:30

Ümit Çetin and Celia Jenkins, University of Westminster (United Kingdom) – *Alevism Lessons in the UK: A Case Study of Decolonial Pedagogic Practice*

13:50

Ali Aktaş, The Ministry of Education (Türkiye) – *An Education Process Advanced by an Inch over a Century: Alevi Education in the Republican Period*

14:10

Duygu Gülçiçeği, İstanbul Aydın University (Türkiye) – *From Invisibility to Earned Presence: The Emergence of Alevism in Higher Education*

14:30

Discussion

14:50



Coffee Break



RaT
Religion and Transformation

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IV. Curriculum and Course Materials

Chair: *Gülay Tulasoğlu*

- 15:20 • **Nurten Kalaycı**, KPH/University of Vienna (Austria) – Curricula and Teaching Materials for Alevi Religious Education in Austria: An Analysis of the Curriculum and Materials for Primary Schools
- 15:40 • **Özlem Karakuş**, University of Potsdam (Germany) – Teaching Sacrifice Across Traditions: A Comparative Study of Kurban/Korban in Alevi and Jewish Curricula in German Schools with Special Reference to the Akedah
- 16:00 • **Cem Erdem**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań (Poland) – Curriculum and Course Materials in Alevi Religious Education in Turkish Schools: A Critical Assessment
- 16:20 • Discussion
- 17:00 • *Free Time*
- 19:00 • **Dinner/Muharrem Commemoration and Fast-Breaking**
(Seminarraum i2/3, Schenkenstraße 8–10, 1010 Vienna)



27 June, Saturday

V. Pedagogy

Chair: *Mustafa Şen*

- 09:30 • **Cemal Salman** Istanbul University (Türkiye) and **Deniz Kahrıman-Pamuk**, University of Gothenburg (Sweden) – The Role of Religious Education in Building Immigrant Identity: Between Politics and Pedagogy
- 09:50 • **Cem Erdem**, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań (Poland) – A Pedagogical Framework for Teaching Alevism: A Theoretical Discussion
- 10:10 • **Abdurrahman Gülbeyaz**, Nagasaki University (Japan) – Teaching Alevism in Formal Education in Germany: The Didactic Recasting of a Living Tradition
- 10:30 • Discussion
- 11:00 • *Coffee Break*

VI. Legal Foundations

Chair: *Ednan Aslan*

- 11:20 • **Gheis Ebadi**, Humboldt University Berlin (Germany) – Legal Foundations of Alevi Education in Light of The European Court of Human Rights' Decisions
- 11:40 • **Erdal Kalaycı**, University of Vienna (Austria) and **Eylül Akkaya**, University of Graz (Austria) – Comparative Perspectives on the Legal Foundations of Alevi Religious Education in Austria and Germany
- 12:00 • Discussion
- 12:20 • *Coffee Break*

VII. Round Table

On the Future of Alevi Religious Education
in Europe and Türkiye

Chair: **Rıza Yıldırım**,
University of Vienna (Austria)

12:30 • Round Table Discussion

13:30 • *Closing Remarks and Lunch*



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PARTICIPANTS

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Participants:

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University of Vienna (Austria)

Zekirija Sejdini, Prof.

University of Vienna (Austria)

Ednan Aslan, Prof.

University of Vienna (Austria)

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