Participants

Ayman Agbaria - Syed Magfur Ahmad - Sami Adwan - Muhammed Ali - Leila Almazova
Ednan Aylan - Rositsa Atranasova - Inater Avest - Asligul Aygel - Denis Brylov - Holger Daun
- Areti Demosthenous - Sule Dursun - Sabine Hermisson - Heinz Fassmann
Dzintra Iliško - Tarequl Islam - Wisam Kh. Abdul-Jabbar - Seyfi Kenan - Lauren Kerby
Abdulhakeem Yousuf Al-Khelaifi - Michael Ameen Kramer - Genti Kruja - Arnika Kuusisto
- Georgios Mavrommatis - Nadire Mustafı - Farid Panjwani - Manfred L. Pirner
- Abdullah Muhammad Zaved Rakib - Martin Rothgangel - Yasar Sarkay
Zekirija Sejdini - Henrik Simojoki - Mehmet Tuna - Wolfgang Weirer - Zsofia Windisch
Almeda Wright - Senol Yagdi - Ali Yaman

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International Conference Religion(s) at School
International Conference Religion(s) at School
CONFERENCE ON RELIGION(S) AT SCHOOL

School is not only a place of learning for children, but also a space where they encounter new cultural, religious and other worldviews. Regardless of family and social background, children cannot avoid this diversity. It challenges them to acquire competences for reflecting on and processing this plurality. This is not simply a task for religious education, but rather a private or public school educational task aimed at enabling children and adolescents to deal with plurality.

In this process, religious education has the particular task of introducing children to religious and cultural diversity and challenging them to form their own opinions. Cognitive, psychological and ideological factors play an important role in this process. By integrating such factors teachers can guide pupils out of a passive observer-consumer attitude and into the role of an active learner-participant, thus transforming plurality into an educational paradigm. This process encompasses enabling pupils to realize that plurality is not simply a given, but rather an adaptable and integral feature of their individuality that challenges them to make decisions by critically reflecting on themselves and society and to formulate justifications for those decisions.

It is also possible that students will continue to make new decisions along the way. To look at the world again and again from different perspectives should also be considered a human quality and a sign of maturity, because without these competences plurality would remain a buzzword, an empty pronouncement to which no action corresponds. Plurality requires capacities for dealing with and processing it, otherwise it ultimately results in relativism, or passivity, and extremism.

The question raised at the outset as to how an individual and a dynamic religious identity can emerge must therefore be answered in such a way that a healthy and balanced identity emerges only after serious examination of one’s own tradition, one’s own environment and oneself.

Religious education should offer an appropriate atmosphere in which pupils can learn to process not only concurring, like-minded and compatible, but also competing and divergent histories of religions and, on that basis, to seek, discover and pursue their own individual orientation.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Friday, 15 November 2019
Location: Auditorium on Campus

16.00 | Registration
Welcome coffee and Snacks

17.00 | Opening Ceremony
Welcoming words: Ednan Aslan, Department of Islamic-Theological Studies, University of Vienna
Heinz Fassmann - Former Minister of Education

Keynote I - Almeda Wright
Yale University-Divinity School
Children, Youth, and Spirituality in a Troubling World

Keynote II - Lauren Kerby
Harvard University-Divinity School
Habits of the Mind, Values of the Heart: Religious Literacy and the Pursuit of Pluralism in Schools

Saturday, 16 November 2019

SESSION I - Theoretical Approaches to Islamic Education
Moderation: Arniika Kuusisto
Location: Aula am Campus
09.00-10.10

SESSION II - Religious Education in Post-Communist Societies
Moderation: Dzintra Iliško
Location: HS1 am Institut für Orientalistik
09.00-09.20
How Kids Learn about Islam in Post-Soviet Tatarstan?
Leila Almazova, Tatarstan

09.20-09.40
Challenges to Teaching Islamic Religion in the Modern World
Theological Seyfi Kenan, Turkey

09.40-10.00
Teaching Religion in Bulgarian Public Schools
Rositsa Atanasova, Bulgarien

10.00-10.10 | Panel Discussion

10.10-10.30 | Coffee Break

Challenges to Teaching Islamic Religion in the Modern World
Theological Seyfi Kenan, Turkey

Al-Kindi On Education: Interdisciplinary Theorizing and the Intercultural Minhaj
Wisam Kh. Abdul-Jabbar, Canada

The Importance of Women`s Education in Islamic Philosophy
Tarequl Islam, Turkey

The Challenge of Religious Education in Schools in Multi-Religious Societies: The Case of Albania
Genti Kruja, Albania
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.30-10.50</td>
<td>Islamic Education in Non-Muslim Countries - The Cases of England, the Netherlands, Russia, and Sweden by Holger Daun, Sweden</td>
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<td>10.50-11.10</td>
<td>The Transformation of Islamic Education in Contemporary Germany by Asligül Aysel, Germany</td>
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<td>11.10-11.30</td>
<td>The Legal Integration, Political Challenges and Future Prospects of Islamic Religious Education in Austria by Michael Ameen Kramer, Austria</td>
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<td>11.30-11.40</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>11.40-12.00</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<td>12.00-12.20</td>
<td>Religious Education as a Location for Encountering Pluralism and Developing Identity by Areti Demosthenous, Cyprus</td>
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<td>12.20-12.40</td>
<td>Pluralistic Religious Education in Austria by Mehmet Hilmi Tuna, Austria</td>
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<td>12.40-13.00</td>
<td>Religious Plurality in Schools: The Case of Schools with a Religious Character in England by Farid Panjwani, England</td>
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<td>13.10-15.10</td>
<td>Socialisational Significance of Religion as a General Educational Resource and a Reference Horizon in Everyday Life by Nadire Mustafi, Switzerland</td>
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<td>15.10-15.30</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>15.30-15.50</td>
<td>Religion and Education as Resources for Young Refugees. Results from an Empirical Mixed-Methods Study by Manfred L. Pirner, Germany</td>
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<td>15.50-16.10</td>
<td>Combatting Prejudices: Challenges for Religious Education in the Case of Refugees by Zsofia Windisch, Martin Rothgangel, Austria</td>
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<td>16.10-16.20</td>
<td>An Analysis of Religious Education in Schools in Northern Macedonia by Muhammed Ali, Macedonia</td>
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<td>16.20-16.40</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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### Sunday, 17 November 2019

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>09.00-09.20</td>
<td>Religious Fundamentalism as a Challenge for (Inter)Religious Education</td>
<td>Aula am Campus</td>
<td>Wolfgang Weirer, Austria</td>
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<td>09.20-09.40</td>
<td>Growing up Radical? Supporting Pupils' Worldview Construction in School</td>
<td>Aula am Campus</td>
<td>Arniika Kuusisto, Sweden</td>
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<td>09.40-10.00</td>
<td>Can We Live Together? An Islamic Perspective</td>
<td>Aula am Campus</td>
<td>Abdulhakeem Yousuf Al-Khelaifi, Qatar</td>
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<td>10.00-10.20</td>
<td>Religious Schools in Bangladesh: Does it Impress to be Extremist or Fundamentalist?</td>
<td>Aula am Campus</td>
<td>Abdullah Muhammad Zaved Rakib, Turkey</td>
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<td>10.20-10.30</td>
<td>Panel Discussion</td>
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<td>Coffee break</td>
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### SESSION IX - Muslim Minorities and Religious Education

**Moderation:** Farid Panjwani  
**Location:** Aula am Campus  
**16.40-17.50**

- **16.40-17.00** Being a Minority: Muslim Minorities and Religious Education  
  Denis Brylov, Ukraine
- **17.00-17.20** Religious Education that Develops Religious Competency for Dealing with Pluralism  
  Dzintra iliško, Latvia
- **17.20-17.40** Contents and Practices Regarding the “Religion of the Other” in Educating the Mixed (Christian/ Muslim) Society in Greek Thrace  
  Georgios Mavrommatis, Greece
- **17.40-17.50** Panel Discussion
- **18.30** Dinner

### SESSION X - Fundamentalism in Schools

**Moderation:** Ayman Agbaria  
**Location:** Aula am Campus

- **09.00-09.10**
- **09.20-09.40**
- **09.40-10.00**
- **10.00-10.20**
- **10.20-10.30**
- **10.30-10.50**

### SESSION XI - Minorities in Public Schools

**Moderation:** Arethi Demosthenous  
**10.50-12.00**

- **10.50-11.10**
- **11.10-11.30**
- **11.30-12.00**
- **12.00-12.30**

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**CLOSING SESSION**

The Future of Religious Education: A Short Review of the Conference  
**Moderation:** Lauren Kerby  
**12.30-13.00**

- **12.30-13.00** Discussant  
  Farid Panjwani  
  Dzintra iliško  
  Arniika Kuusisto  
  Ayman Agbaria

**Cultural Program**  
**14.00**