

**INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON SHARING SACRED SPACE:
LEGAL, THEOLOGICAL, AND SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES**

**Rome, Italy
December 14-15, 2011**

Co-Organizers:

**Interdisciplinary Program in Law and Religion, Columbus School of Law,
The Catholic University of America, United States;**

**International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University,
J. Reuben Clark Law School, United States; and**

The John Paul II Center, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

9 AM Introduction

9:15-11:15 AM Theology and Philosophy of Sacred Space
(2 hours)

1. What Is A Sacred Space?

Moderator: James Faulconer, Brigham Young University, United States

Andrea Poma, University of Turin, Italy
Saint Versus Sacred

Ben Vedder, Radboud University, Netherlands
How to Think the Holy

Mark A. Wrathall, University of California Riverside, United States
The Temporality of Sacred Space

11:15-11:30 AM Break

11:30 AM-1:15 PM Theology and Philosophy of Sacred Space
(1.75 hours)

2. What is the Philosophical Theology of Sacred Space in the Abrahamic Religions?

Moderator: Rabbi Jack Bemporad, The John Paul II Center, Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), Rome

Islam: Imam Yahya Pallavicini, al-Wāhid Mosque, Italy

Judaism: Seth Daniel Kunin, Durham University, United Kingdom

Christianity: Laurence Hemming, University of Lancaster, United Kingdom

1:15-2:30 PM

Lunch

2:30-5 PM

(2.5 hours)

Legal Issues of Sacred Space

Moderator: Gennadiy Druzenko, Institute of European Integration, Ukraine

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School, United States

The Preston Temple Affair: Limits on Government Subsidy for Sacred Space – A 21st Century Problem for Religious Freedom

Peter W. Edge, Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom

Sacred Sites and State Failures: A Case Study of the Babri Masjid/Ram Temple (Ayodah) Dispute

Robert A. Destro, The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, United States

Religious Freedom and Sacred Space in American Law

Peter Petkoff, Brunel University, United Kingdom

Using “Soft Law” to Protect Sacred Space: The Case of Ein Kerem

Recep Sentürk, Fatih University, Turkey

Minority Religious Property under Islamic and Secular Turkish Law: The New Turkish Law on the Return of Minority Religious Property

5-5:15 PM

Break

5:15-6:45 PM

(1.5 hours)

Managing Sacred Space in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Moderator: Fabrizio Marrella, University ‘Ca Foscari,’ Venice; European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratization, Italy

Marshall J. Breger, The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, United States

Legal Issues in Managing Sacred Space in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Glenn Bowman, University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom

Issues of Sharing in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre

Raymond Cohen, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Negotiating the Unnegotiable in the Holy Sepulchre

7:15 PM

Dinner

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

9-10:45 AM
(1.75 hours)

Sharia on Sacred Space

Moderator: Fr. Elias Mallon, Catholic Near East Association, United States

Shia: Ayatollah S. Mostafa Mohaghegh Damad, Shahid Beheshti University, Iran

Sunni: Yasir Qadhi, Rhodes College, United States

Sufi: Sheik Abd al-Wāhid Pallavicini, Islamic Religious Italian Community, Italy

10:45-11 AM

Break

11 AM-1 PM
(2 hours)

Judaism on Sacred Space

Moderator: Irene Kajon, Sapienza Università di Roma, Italy

Rabbi Daniel Sperber, Bar-Ilan University, Israel

Sacred Space: Jewish, Legal, and Theological Thought

Eyal Ben-Eliyahu, Herzog College, Israel

Rabbinical Views and Popular Views on Sacred Space in the Holy Land

Elchanan Reiner, Tel Aviv University, Israel

Meron: The Development of a Sacred Space

Haviva Pedaya, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

The Concept of the "Foundation Stone" in Jewish Mysticism and Ritual

1-2:15 PM

Lunch

2:15-4 PM
(1.75 hours)

History, Politics, and Sociology of Sacred Space (I)

Moderator: Marshall Breger, Columbus School of Law, The Catholic University of America, United States

Dionigi Albera, University of Aix-en-Provence, France

Conceptual Issues in the Sharing of Sacred Space

M. Y. (Menachem) Klein, Leiden University, Netherlands

Sharing Holy Sites in the Jerusalem Area Before and After the Age of Exclusivist Politics

Alon Goshen-Gottstein, Elijah Interfaith Institute, Israel

Visions of Shared Sacred Space: Theoretical Problems, Practical Possibilities

4-4:15 PM

Break

4:15-6 PM

(1.75 hours)

History, Politics, and Sociology of Sacred Space (II)

Moderator: Riccardo Pozzo, Istituto per Il Lessico Intellettuale Europeo e Storia della Idee (ILIESI), Italy

Yuri Stoyanov, School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, United Kingdom

Resuming and Terminating the Sharing of Sites of Worship in the Post-Communist Balkans: Some Socio-Political and Religious Aspects

Maria Couroucli, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France

Shared Sacred Space in the Eastern Mediterranean: Historic and Political Relevance

Anna Bigelow, North Carolina State University, United States

The Ethics and Etiquette of Exchange: Sharing Sacred Space in India

6 PM

Summation

6:15 PM

Conclusion

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