Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis:

WHY CAN’T WE GET ALONG?
Preliminary Programme

Freedom of Religion or Belief in Situations of Crisis: Why Can’t We Get Along?
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 Podoprigora
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 Błeszynska, 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 Põder,** 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 Põder**, 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 Ospanova, 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)