

DAY 1	Tuesday April 26
	Arrival in Istanbul / Registration opens at 2.00 pm
12.30 – 15.30	Pre-Conference ESITIS Board Meeting
15.30 – 16.30	Welcome with Tea and Coffee
16.30 – 17.00	Chair: Rahim Acar Session 1 Conference Opening Head of Marmara Faculty of Theology Oddbjørn Leirvik (Oslo) Norbert Hintersteiner (Dublin)
17.00 – 18.00	Opening Note Mehmet Aydin (Istanbul) Intercultural and Interreligious relations- the Istanbul experience
18.00 – 18.30	Organisational Details Rahim Acar
18.30-20.00	Dinner

DAY 2	Wednesday April 27
	Session 2 Chair: Kajsa Ahlstrand (Uppsala)
9.00 – 10.30	Thomas Bremer (Münster) Historical narratives of religious diversity in Western and South Eastern Europe (30') Önver A. Cetrez (Uppsala) Assyrian View on Turkey from the Perspective of Immigration: The Construction of the Other (30')
10.30 – 11.00	Tea break
11.00 – 12.30	Angeliki Ziaka (Thessaloniki) Muslim Minorities in Greece (30') Plenum
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.00	Session 3 - Parallel Papers 20' Research Presentations
16.00 – 16.30	Tea break
16.30 – 18.00	Session 4 Chair: Ulrich Winkler (Salzburg) Kajsa Ahlstrand (Uppsala) “Something that feels this good to me just can’t be wrong”: Religious Authority and the Subjective Turn (10-15') Hans-Joachim Sander (Salzburg) Globalized Powerlessness of Heterotopic Citizen: A Locus for Secular Authority of Public Religions (25') Zilka Spahić-Šiljak (Sarajevo) Negotiating Power Relations: Multi- religious dialogue between academia and civil society organizations in BiH (25')
18.30-20.30	Dinner

**Thematic Element 1:
The Study of Religions in a
Changing Europe:
Integrity, Translation and
Transformation
(April 26-9)**

During this thematic bloc participants will explore the opening theme with regard to the contextual dimensions of historical narratives of religious diversity; the power and interests entangled with religious expressions of persons and institutions in a changing cultural landscape; and, the implications that developments in the European context have for the academic study of religion as well as for the faith communities.

DAY 3		Thursday April 28	
		Session 5 <i>Chair: Jorge Castillo Guerra (Nijmegen)</i>	
9.00 – 10.30	<i>Presenters in Open Floor:</i> David Cheetham (Birmingham) 20' Ina Merdjanova (Dublin) 20' Recep Kaymakcan (Sakarya) 20'		
10.30 – 11.00	Tea break		
		Session 6 <i>Chair: W. Van der Merwe (Amsterdam)</i>	
11.00 – 12.30	<i>Presenters in Open Floor:</i> Oddbjørn Leirvik (Oslo) 20' Nicolae Dură (Constantia) 20'		
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch		
13.45 – 14.30	ESITIS General Society Meeting		
		Session 7 Parallel Papers á 20' Research Presentations	
14.30 – 16.00			
16.00 – 16.30	Tea break		
		Session 8 <i>Chair: Peter Lodberg (Aarhus)</i>	
16.30 – 18.00	Norbert Hintersteiner (Dublin) Religions in Translation 25' Maureen Junker-Kenny (Dublin) Translation as a requirement of public reason and of traditions of 'faith seeking understanding' 25' <i>Plenum Discussion</i>		
18.30-20.00	Dinner		

DAY 4		Friday April 29	
		Session 9 <i>Chairs: Ina Merdjanova and Rahim Acar</i>	
9.00 – 10.30	Safet Bektovic (Copenhagen) European Islam or Islam in Europe: A Danish-Bosnian Perspective 25' Tahir Abbas (Istanbul)		
		Muslim Minorities and the Development of British Islam in the Post- 9/11 Context 25'	
10.30 – 11.00	Tea Break		
		Riem Spielhaus (Copenhagen) Future Challenges of Islam in Europe and Turkey 25' <i>Closing Floor Discussion with Panellists</i>	
11.00 – 12.30	Angeliki Ziaka (Thessaloniki), Ina Merdjanova (Dublin) Nicolae Dură (Constantia), Tahir Abbas (Istanbul), Safet Bektovic (Copenhagen), Riem Spielhaus (Copenhagen)		
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch		
14.00 –	<i>Departure of ESITIS Conference Participants</i>		

DAY 5	Monday May 2 Session 10 <i>Chair: David Thomas (Birmingham)</i>
9.00 – 10.00	Marco Dogo (Trieste) 40' Windows into the Interreligious Histories of Islam and Christianity in South East Europe: State policies and Communal Determinism
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break
10.15 – 11.15	Communal Historical Perspectives A Muslim View Süleyman Derin (Istanbul) 25' A Christian View Mato Zovkić (Sarajevo) 25'
11.30 – 12.30	Group Discussions
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
	Session 11 <i>Chair: Pim Valkenberg (Baltimore)</i>
14.30 – 16.00	Bilal Baş (Istanbul) What does the Qur'an Say to Christians: the Case of the Chapter of the Table 30' Daniel Madigan (Washington DC) John the Baptist and Yahya b. Zakariya: the end and ends of prophecy 30'
16.00 – 16.30	Tea break
16.30 – 18.00	<i>Respondent</i> İsmail Taspınar (Istanbul) Revisiting the Quranic Approach to the People of the Book <i>Plenum</i>
18.30 – 20.00	Dinner

DAY 6	Tuesday May 3 Session 12 <i>Chair: H. Murre-van den Berg (Leiden)</i> Interreligious History - Group 1
9.00 – 10.00	Martin Tamcke (Göttingen) Christians in dispute with Muslims: German Missions to the Muslims in Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire 40'
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break
10.15 – 11.15	Ertuğrul Ökten (Istanbul) Intercommunal Religious Encounters in Sufi Context 25'
11.30 – 12.30	Group Plenum Discussion
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.30	Session 14 Student Research Papers Parallel Groups
16.30 – 17.00	Tea break
17.00 – 18.30	Zrinka Štimac (Bielefeld) 25' From diversity to pluralism? Interactions of Abrahamic religions in Bosnia and Herzegovina Heleen Murre-van den Berg (Leiden) 25' Language, Religion and Identity: Challenges in the Interreligious History of 20th-Century Turkey
18.30 – 20.00	Dinner

Thematic Element 2: Engaging the Other: Interreligious Historical and Comparative Theological Explorations (May 2-4)

The discussion will branch into pursuit of multiple perspectives during the second thematic element: with two working groups and parallel papers. On the one hand, the complexities of Islam and Christianity's co-existence in various parts of South East Europe will come to focus through a historical lens, on the other hand, persistent inter-faith issues will be held up for an ongoing examination through resources of both traditions.

Thematic element 2 continued

DAY 6	<p>Tuesday May 3</p> <p>Session 13 <i>Chair: Pim Valkenberg (Baltimore)</i> Comparative Theology - Group 2</p>
9.00 – 10.00	<p>David Thomas (Birmingham) 40' Christian Doctrines in Islamic Theology</p>
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break
10.15 – 11.15	<p>Süleyman Derin (Istanbul) 25' Personality of Jesus in Sufi Thought</p>
11.15 – 12.30	Group Plenum Discussions
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.30	<p>Session 14 Student Research Papers Parallel Groups</p>
16.30 – 17.00	Tea break
17.00 – 18.30	<p>Session 16 <i>Chair: Dursun Ali Aykit (Istanbul)</i> <p>Rahim Acar (Istanbul)/ Isabelle Moulin (Paris)</p> The necessity of Creation and Divine Freedom 25' + 25'</p>
18.30 – 20.00	Dinner

DAY 7	<p>Wednesday May 4</p> <p>Session 17 <i>Chair: Ina Merdjanova & Norbert Hintersteiner (Dublin)</i></p>
9.00 – 10.00	<p>David Thomas (Birmingham) & Heleen Murre-van den Berg (Leiden) Report and Prospects 30' Interreligious History Group</p>
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break
10.15 – 11.00	<p>Pim Valkenberg (Baltimore) & Dursun Ali Aykit (Istanbul) Report and Prospects 30' Comparative Theology Group</p>
11.15 – 12.30	Plenum Discussion
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
	Free Afternoon and Free Evening

Thematic Element 3: Shared Religious Spaces (May 5-6)

The programme will continue with theoretical and case-study based approaches to the region's Shared Religious Spaces during the third thematic bloc; and, will culminate with an Excursion around such shared religious spaces in Istanbul on Saturday.

DAY 8	Thursday May 5 Session 18 <i>Chair: Frans Wijzen (Nijmegen)</i>	DAY 9	Friday May 6 Session 21 <i>Chair: Ina Merdjanova (Dublin)</i>	Saturday May 7 Excursion
9.00 – 10.00	Literature Review Groups on Shared Religious Spaces: A Topos in Cultural Religious Anthropology <i>Introduced by Ger Duijzings (London)</i>	9.00 – 10.00	Adelina Angusheva (Manchester) Integrated spaces - disintegrated discourses: Histories of Bulgarian shared shrines through texts and e-texts 30'	S h a r e d R e l i g. S i t e s
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break	10.00 – 10.30	Tea break	
10.15 – 11.15	Jacob Sifakis (Thessaloniki) 40' Shared Religious Sites in Northern Greece Şeyma Turan (Istanbul) 20' Greek Orthodox Sacred Places in Istanbul	10.30 – 11.15	Elizabeta Koneska (Macedonia) The Shared Shrines in Macedonia (A Case Study) 30'	
11.30 – 12.30	Group Plenum Discussion	11.30 – 12.30	Group Plenum Discussion	
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch	12.30 – 14.30	Lunch	
14.30 – 16.30	Session 19 Student Research Papers Parallel Groups	14.30 – 16.30	Session 22 Student Research Papers Parallel Groups	
16.30 – 17.00	Tea break	16.30 – 17.00	Tea break	
17.00 – 18.15	Session 20 <i>Chair: Ina Merdjanova (Dublin)</i> Ger Duijzings (London) Shared Religious Sites in Kosovo (A Case Study) 30'	17.00 – 18.15	Session 23 <i>Chair: İsmail Safa Üstün (Istanbul)</i> Kurşat Demirci (Istanbul) Shared Religious Sites in Istanbul: From Zeus to Yusha 30' (Introduction to Excursion Programme)	
18.30 – 20.00	Dinner	18.30 – 20.00	Dinner	

Thematic element 4: Religion, Politics and Power Struggle (May 9-10)

Gathering the prior three thematic elements closer together the program will conclude with an exploration of the interplay between religion and politics together with the power struggles that animate it. The fourth thematic bloc will conclude the IP by revisiting and underlining the trajectories, stakes of influence, and aspirations already in place throughout the diverse region of Southeast Europe- in order better to respond to its interreligious and intercultural present and future.

DAY 10	Monday May 9
	Session 24 <i>Chair: Manuela Kalsky (Nijmegen)</i>
9.00 – 10.00	Talip Küçükcan (Istanbul) 40' Religion and State in Comparative Perspective
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break
10.15 – 11.00	Caner Taslaman / Alper Bilgili (Yildiz) 30' Islam in Turkey in the Process of Globalization
11.15 – 12.30	Group Plenum Discussion
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
	Session 25 <i>Chair: Jacques Haers (Leuven)</i>
14.30 – 15.30	Ina Merdjanova (Dublin) 40' Religion and Politics in the Post-Communist Balkans: an Overview
15.30 – 16.00	Tea break
	Session 26 <i>Chair: Rahim Acar (Istanbul)</i>
16.00 – 18.00	Group Discussions with Representatives of Religious Communities
18.30 – 20.00	Dinner

DAY 11	Tuesday May 10	May 11
	Session 27 <i>Chair: Jacques Haers (Leuven)</i>	
9.00 – 10.00	Manuela Kalsky (Nijmegen) 40' Women and Power Struggles in Islam, Christianity, and (Post)Secular Societies	
10.00 – 10.15	Tea break	
10.15 – 11.00	Nazife Şişman (Istanbul) 30' Islam and Women in Turkey's Modern and post-Secular Discourse	
11.15 – 12.30	Group Plenum Discussion	
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch	
15.00 – 15.30	Students' IP Evaluation	
15.30 – 16.00	Tea break	
	Session 28 <i>Chairs: Rahim Acar (Istanbul) Norbert Hintersteiner (Dublin)</i>	
16.00 – 18.00	Hadi Adanalı (Istanbul) Ethical Roots of Intercultural Dialogue 20' Erhard Busek (Vienna) Interreligious Coexistence and the Unfinished Projects of Southeast Europe 40' <i>Select Student Statements</i> Closing Group Plenum Discussion	
18.30 – 20.00	IP Closing Reception	

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