



Religious Diversity and
Secular Models in Europe –
Innovative Approaches
to Law and Policy

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and Secular Models
in Europe
Innovative Approaches
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EUROPEAN COMMISSION
European Research Area



SEVENTH FRAMEWORK
PROGRAMME

Funded under Socio-economic Sciences & Humanities

Secularism and Religious Diversity in Europe: Opportunities and Perspectives

RELIGARE Conference

4 – 5 December 2012

4 December

Auditorium Zeger Van Hee
University of Leuven
Leuven, Belgium

5 December

Centre Albert Borschette
36, Rue Froissart
Brussels, Belgium



Background

RELIGARE ('Religious Diversity and Secular Models in Europe: Innovative Approaches to Law and Policy') is a European framework project focusing on the ways in which European states govern the diversity of religions and beliefs within their territories. Its ultimate aim is to advance 'promising practices' through an in-depth comparative study of case law and sociological data on the freedom of religion and the right to non-discrimination.

RELIGARE seeks to show how historically rooted models of the Secular state in Europe are challenged by Europe's changing religious and philosophical diversity. To do so, it examines both the theory and practice of the protection of the freedom of religion and belief and the right to non-discrimination in 10 countries, concentrating on four major domains: (1) family life, (2) employment, (3) access and the use of public space, and (4) the different forms of State support to religions and non-confessional groups.

The project applies an inter-disciplinary approach, comparing legal data gathered from 10 countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Turkey and the UK) and sociological data collected through semi-structured interviews with key opinion makers or stakeholders, in six countries (Bulgaria, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Turkey, the UK).

As the RELIGARE project nears the end of its three-year research period, this two-day conference will offer a unique opportunity to discuss and reflect upon the project's key findings.

- The first day (*4 December - University of Leuven*) will be dedicated to a detailed presentation and an in-depth discussion of the research results among RELIGARE partners and external scholars and experts.
- The conference will be followed by an evening panel (*University of Leuven*), featuring a keynote speech by Herman Van Rompuy, President of the EU Council.
- The second day (*5 December - Brussels*) will situate the RELIGARE research findings in a wider context, exploring their relevance and potential for an EU approach to the protection of the freedom of religion and belief and the right to non-discrimination. The programme feature keynote speeches by Thorbjørn Jagland, General Secretary of the Council of Europe, and László Surján, Vice-President of the European Parliament.

The RELIGARE project has yielded a number of research outputs of scientific and policy relevance at EU and national levels such as a database of case law covering the 10 countries investigated. For further information on key outputs and publications produced under the RELIGARE project, please visit: www.religareproject.eu.

This event is co-organised by the Institute for Human Rights and the Faculty of Canon Law at KU Leuven, and the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS).

PROGRAMME 4 DECEMBER - Leuven

08.30 – 09.00 Registration

09.00 – 09.30 Introduction and Welcome Panel

- **Bernard Tilleman**, Dean of the Law Faculty, KU Leuven
- **Marie-Claire Foblets**, Coordinator of the RELIGARE project, KU Leuven
- **Louisa Anastopoulou**, Research Programme Officer - Scientific Officer, DG Research, European Commission

09.30 – 10.30 Panel I: Religion and Belief in the Public Space

Chair: **Jorgen Nielsen**, RELIGARE partner, University of Copenhagen

Speaker: **Silvio Ferrari**, RELIGARE partner, University of Milan

Discussants:

Ronan McCrea, University College London

Françoise Tulkens, Former Judge, European Court of Human Rights

Vladimiro Zagrebelsky, Former Judge, European Court of Human Rights

10.30- 11.30 Panel II: Religion and Belief in the Work Place

Chair: **Veit Bader**, University of Amsterdam

Speaker: **Katayoun Alidadi**, RELIGARE partner, KU Leuven

Discussants:

Lucy Vickers, Oxford Brookes University

Julie Ringelheim, Université Catholique de Louvain

Frank Hendrickx, KU Leuven

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee break

11.45- 12.45 Panel III: Family Law

Chair: **Prakash Shah**, RELIGARE partner, Queen Mary, London

Speaker: **Mathias Rohe**, RELIGARE partner, University of Erlangen

Discussants:

Jean-Yves Carlier, Université Catholique de Louvain

Roberta Aluffi, University of Torino

12.45-14.00 Lunch Break

14.00 – 15.00 Panel IV: State Support to Religions and Beliefs

Chair: **Rik Torfs**, RELIGARE partner, KU Leuven

Speaker: **Francis Messner**, RELIGARE partner, CNRS/PRISME,
University of Strasbourg

Discussants:

Cole Durham, Brigham Young University

Pierre-Henri Prélôt, University of Cergy Pontoise

Patrick Loobuyck, University of Antwerp

15.00 – 18.00 Panel V: Researching Religious and Philosophical Diversity

Chair: **Silvio Ferrari**, RELIGARE partner, University of Milan

Speakers (First part):

Linda Woodhead, Lancaster University

Pasquale Annicchino, European University Institute

16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

Speakers (Second part):

Lori Beaman, University of Ottawa

Eva Brems, University of Ghent

Discussants:

Cécile Laborde, University College London

Rinus Penninx, University of Amsterdam

Bertram Turner, Max Planck Institute, Halle

18.00-18.30 Open Debate

19.30 – 21.30 Evening Panel: Convictions and Beliefs in Future Europe

Introduction: **Louis Tobback**, Mayor of Leuven

Keynote Speaker:

Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council

Music: **Joeri Wens & Kay Sleking**

Moderator: **Marie-Claire Foblets**, KU Leuven

Adam Seligman, Boston University

Olivier Roy, European University Institute

Maleiha Malik, King's College London

Marco Ventura, KU Leuven

Tore Lindholm, University of Oslo

Reception and Drinks

Practical Information

Dates: 4 December 2012

Location: Leuven

4th December 2012 (Leuven)

Venue: Auditorium Zeger Van Hee, Collegium Falconis

Address: Tiensestraat 41, Law Faculty 3000 Leuven

Venue Evening Panel:

Promotiezaal: Universiteitshal, Naamsstraat 22, 3000 Leuven

Contact person: Zeynep Yanasmayan (zeynep.yanasmayan@law.kuleuven.be)

Online Registration at:

http://www.law.kuleuven.be/apps/activiteiten/portaal/inschrijvingen/index.php?activiteit_ref=695&lang=eng&

PROGRAMME 5 DECEMBER - Centre Albert Borschette, Brussels

09.00 – 09.30 Registration

09.30 – 10.00 Welcome Panel

- **Louisa Anastopoulou**, Research Programme Officer - Scientific Officer, DG Research, European Commission
- **Marie-Claire Foblets**, Coordinator of the RELIGARE project, KU Leuven

10.00 – 10.30 Keynote Speech by Thorbjørn Jagland, General Secretary of the Council of Europe

10.30 – 13.15 Panel I: The challenge of religious diversity in Europe

Chair: **Rik Torfs**, RELIGARE partner, KU Leuven

Presentations:

Abdullahi An-Na'im, Professor Emeritus, Emory University

José Casanova, Professor, Georgetown University

Heiner Bielefeldt, Professor, University of Erlangen / UN Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion

11.30 – 11.45 Coffee Break

Respondents:

Tariq Modood, RELIGARE Advisory Board, University of Bristol

Maleiha Malik, Professor, King's College London

Jean-François Gaudreault-DesBiens, RELIGARE Advisory Board, University of Montreal

Paul Lemmens, Judge, European Court of Human Rights

Prakash Shah, RELIGARE partner, Queen Mary, London

Open Discussion

13.15 – 14.00 Lunch break

14.00 – 14.30 Keynote Speech by Lázló Surján, Vice-President of the European Parliament

14.30 – 17.30 Panel II: RELIGARE research findings and recommendations for the EU

Chair: **Sergio Carrera**, RELIGARE partner, CEPS

Presentation:

Marie-Claire Foblets, Coordinator of the RELIGARE project, KU Leuven

Katayoun Alidadi, RELIGARE partner, KU Leuven

Veit Bader, RELIGARE partner, University of Amsterdam

Silvio Ferrari, RELIGARE partner, University of Milan

Coffee

Respondents:

Jean-Louis De Brouwer, Former Director for DG Home Affairs and DG Employment, European Commission

Andreas Stein, Head of Unit - Equal Treatment Legislation, DG Justice, European Commission

Katharina von Schnurbein, Advisor, Bureau of European Policy Advisers (BEPA)

Stephanos Stavros, Executive Secretary, European Commission - against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), Council of Europe

Giulia Amaducci, Policy Officer, DG Home, European Commission

Open Discussion, chaired by **Mathias Rohe**, RELIGARE partner, University of Erlangen

Practical Information

Dates: 5 December 2012

Location: Brussels

5th December 2012 (Brussels)

Venue: Centre Albert Borschette

Address: 36, Rue Froissart-1049 Brussels, Belgium

Contact person: Miriam Mir (miriam.mir@ceps.eu)

Online Registration at:

http://www.law.kuleuven.be/apps/activiteiten/portaal/inschrijvingen/index.php?activiteit_ref=695&lang=eng&