

Centre for Theology and Religious Studies, Lund University in collaboration with
the Center for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development in Bologna

1st to 2nd of September 2022, Helgonavägen 3, Lund, Sweden

Legalizing Religious Communities

**A CONFERENCE ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF STATE FUNDING FOR RELIGION, RELIGIOUS
COMMUNITIES, AND FAITH-BASED ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPE**

On June 30, 2016, the Swedish Government decided to commission an inquiry into a new amendment of the Regulation on the State Support for Religious Communities. The effect of this work has been written into a report, SOU 2018:18, which offered an in-depth analysis of the previous regulations, and proposed changes that could adapt the legislation to the changing religious landscape in Sweden. The proposals of the report have significant legal and theological implications, which have a bearing on the definition of religion, religious community, and acceptable/encouraged religiosity. They also provide solid ground for comparative analysis. As other countries of the European Union face similar challenges, and many of them

also consider changing their systems of governmental support for faith communities, the Swedish report could be the starting point for a pan-European discussion on the changing relationship between the State and religious communities in the face of growing pluralization.

The conference will provide a forum for academics, research focused practitioners and policy makers to present research findings concerned with the implications of state funding for religion, religious communities and faith-based organizations. We especially invite perspectives from law, theology and social sciences, but related disciplines are also welcomed. We encourage proposals concerned with both single case studies and comparative approach.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

DAY 1: 1st of September (Room: LUX B237)

13:00 – Opening of the Conference

14:00 – Keynote Speaker 1: Javier Martínez-Torrón, Complutense University Madrid

15:30 – Paper Session 1:

- Piotr Szymaniec - Registration of Religious Communities in the Vysegrad Group countries: a comparative analysis
- Linnea Lundgren - Diversity vs Social Cohesion: The Changing Politics of Religion in Sweden

17:30 – Keynote Speaker 2: Jessica Giles, Open University

DAY 2: 2nd of September (Room: LUX B417)

10:00 – Keynote Speaker 3: Ryszard Piotrowski, University of Warsaw

11:00 – Paper Session 2:

- Rossella Bottoni - The ECtHR case law on the state support for religious denominations
- Silvia Baldassare - Limits and opportunities of national legal instruments in order to build a European paradigm of relations between State and Religious denominations / religious associations
- Claudio Sacchetto and Floriana Santagata - Financial and

tax interventions in favor of worship: between religious freedom and fiscal discrimination

- Fabio Balsamo - The financing of Islamic religious communities in Italy

14:00 – Keynote Speaker 4: Maria D'Arienzo, University of Naples

15:00 – Paper Session 3:

- Alex Borghi - Freedom and state funding for religious communities in the Italian legislative system

- Caterina Gagliardi - Public contributions for the ecological conversion of religious sites

- Stefano Testa Bappenheim - The agreement between the Land of Hamburg and the local Islamic community

- Emil Hilton Saggau - "The Law against Orthodoxy": Concepts and issues in the Montenegrin law on religion from December 2019

17:15 – Hybrid Event: Silvio Ferrari, University of Milan, will discuss his work on developing the Atlas of Religious or Belief Minorities' Rights

Participation in the conference is free.

To participate in coffee breaks, please register by sending an email to ryszard.bobrowicz@ctr.lu.se



**JOINT FACULTIES
OF HUMANITIES
AND THEOLOGY**



The conference is organised with the support of the Centre for European Studies at Lund University and Oscar and Signe Krookskas Fonden.

Lund University was founded in 1666 and is ranked among the world's top 100 universities. The University has 40 000 students and 7 600 staff based in Lund, Helsingborg and Malmö. We are united in our efforts to understand, explain and improve our world and the human condition.

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