



KIRCHER
Network
Jesuit Higher Education
in Europe and the Near East



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



BLENDING INTENSIVE PROGRAM

HEST'S CLUSTER OF CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM RELATIONS
SYMPOSIUM

"Universal-Communitarian Approaches to Social Values in Christianity and Islam"

DEUSTO UNIVERSITY, BILBAO (SPAIN)

PROGRAM

JULY
11TH-15TH
2023

SYMPOSIUM TOPIC

There is a **tension between universalism and communitarianism in contemporary plural democracies, particularly in relation to Christianity and Islam**. Both traditions have a claim to universality, but they also seek to maintain their own values and community life within plural societies. This raises questions about whether modifications should be made to facilitate the assumption of shared values, or whether these traditions should defend their values and identity in a society with increasingly distant shared values. **How can religious traditions appropriate social values and what ethical references can be used to build a shared morality in plural societies?**



SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Alessandro Ferrary, PhD.



Mira Sievers,
PhD.



Michaela Quast-
Neulinger, PhD.



Dirk Ansorge,
PhD.



Lina Iskandar,
PhD.



Gorka Urrutia,
PhD



Rana Alsoufi,
PhD.



Susana Vilas
Boas, PhD.



Tobias Specker
SJ, PhD.



Gonzalo
Villagrán SJ,
PhD.



Jaime
Flaquer SJ,
PhD.

SCHEDULE

LOCATION



BILBAO

UNIVERSITY OF DEUSTO |
CLASSROOM
KORTABARRIA
(PREVIOUSLY 110)

VIRTUAL COMPONENT

DAY 1

JUNE

14TH

18:00-20:00

Prof. Liyakat Ali Takim

Sharjah Chair in Global Islam at
McMaster University

SCHEDULE

DAY 1
JULY
11TH

9:00-11:30

Arrival and registration

16:00-17:30

Welcome session

Welcome activity and visit to Deusto University

DAY 2
JULY
12TH

09:00 - 11:00

OPENING

Philip Geister SJ (President of the Kircher Network) and Gonzalo Villagrán SJ (Dean of Theology at Universidad Loyola)

TOPIC 1

Theological opening lecture

Keynote speaker: Alessandro Ferrary, PhD. (University of Insubria)

"European laicity on a global scale. The osmosys between the religious and secular juridical orders"

Discussion

11:00-11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30-14:00

TOPIC 2

Creating a common ground: Philosophical and political reflection

Speaker 1: Lina Iskandar, PhD (USJ)

"The art of separation for an authentic coexistence"

Speaker 2: Gorka Urrutia, PhD. (Deusto University)

"Secular spaces for interreligious dialogue. Ground for common values?"

Discussion

SCHEDULE

DAY 2
JULY
12TH

14:00-16:00 LUNCH

TOPIC 2 CONTINUATION | 16:00-17:30

Speaker 3: Petra Juen (University of Innsbruck)
Social Values and Interreligious Cooperation in Educational Contexts. Presented using the example of Secondary Schools in Austria

Speaker 4: Dirk Ansorge, PhD. (PTH Sankt Georgen)

"Do religious values exist? Observations on the historicity of values as identity markers of religious communities"

Discussion

17:30-18:00 COFFEE BREAK

18:00-20:30

TOPIC 3

Moral values in christianity and islam: underlining universalism or otherness

Speaker 1: Mira Sievers, PhD.
(Humboldt University)

"Moral universalism and Muslim identity -a Qur'anic approach"

Speaker 2: Rana Alsoufi, PhD. (Goethe University)

"Moral values between universality and Islamic legitimacy"

Discussion

21:00 DINNER

SCHEDULE

DAY 3
JULY
13TH

09:00 - 11:00

TOPIC 3 CONTINUATION

Speaker 3: Susana Vilas Boas PhD.
(Universidad Loyola)

Koran and Bible - Starting Points for Dialogue and Peace: Forgiveness as a Possible Path for a Healthy Islamo-Christian Coexistence

Speaker 4: Lawrence Kibuuka Phd
researcher (University of Innsbruck)

"Nostra Aetate: An important starting point in understanding religious pluralism and Dialogue (An African perspective)"

Discussion

11:00-11:30 COFFEE BREAK

11:30-14:00

General assembly: future steps for the cluster

14:00-16:00 LUNCH

16:00-17:30

TOPIC 4

Building a common house: urgency of the Islamo-Christian dialogue

Speaker 1: Tobias Specker SJ, PhD.
(PTH Sankt Georgen)

"Fratelli Tutti: from competition to cooperation"

Speaker 2: Gonzalo Villagrán SJ, PhD.
(Universidad Loyola)

"A comparative reading of Sayyid Qutb's political thought from a Christian perspective"

SCHEDULE

DAY 3
JULY
13TH

17:30-18:00 COFFEE BREAK

TOPIC 4 CONTINUATION | 16:00-20:30

Speaker 3: Jaime Flaquer SJ, PhD.
(Universidad Loyola)

"Emergence of the concept of citizenship in the principal declarations of Islamic institutions and challenges for its application"

Discussion

21:00 DINNER

Walk around downtown Bilbao and tapas

DAY 4
JULY
14TH

09:00 - 11:30

Wrap up session

Formulation of main conclusions

CONTACT

Gonzalo Villagrán SJ, PhD
(gvillagran@uloyola.es)

Dean of the Theology
Faculty at Universidad
Loyola

