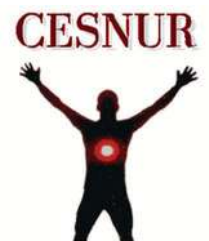


# PROGRAM



June 23-27, 2025 Krushevo,  
North Macedonia (Hotel Montana)



**23.06.2025**

**14.00 - Bus transportation from Skopje to Krushevo for the participants of the Conference (the parking lot of the Faculty of Philosophy)  
Venue of the Conference: Hotel Montana, Krushevo**

**17.00 – 18.00**

**Registration of participants**

**18.00 – 19.00**

## **SPEECHES**

Representative from the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of North Macedonia

**Biljana Angelova**, Rector of the Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje

**Oliver Bakreski**, Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje

**Massimo Introvigne**, Founder and managing director of the Center for Studies of New Religions in Torino, Italy

**High Reverend Kliment**, Vicar Bishop of Heraclea

**Ivan Stoilković**, Deputy Prime Minister of the Government and Minister for Inter-Community Relations of North Macedonia

**Olivera Trajkovska**, Director of the Commission for Relations with Religious Communities and Groups

**Tome Hristoski**, Mayor of the municipality of Krusevo

**Borce Jovceski**, Mayor of the municipality of Prilep

**19.00 – 19.30**

## **INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION**

**Zoran Matevski**, Director of the Centre for Intercultural Studies and Research

**19.30**

## **WELCOME RECEPTION**



# Important notes for all sessions

*- Each presentation by the participants at the Conference is for a maximum of 15 minutes*

*- Each session is followed by a 30-minute discussion*

*- Moderators are requested to start and end each session on time*

**All participants at the Conference are requested to be present at all sessions, for the scientific quality of the discussions**



**24.06.2025**



**09.00-10.30**

## **Working session I**

### **Qigong and the Old-New Search for a Universal Energy**

**Moderator: Massimo Introvigne** / CESNUR, Center for Studies of New Religions, Torino, Italy

**Lillian Lin** / Graduate Student, Ming Chuan University, Taipei, Taiwan /  
**Generation Z's Cultural Awakening in the AI Era: Qigong, Conscience, and Inter-Religious Dialogue**

**Rosita Šorite** / European Federation for Freedom of Belief, Turin and Rome, Italy  
**/ Reiki and Qigong: In Search of a Universal Energy**

**Jason Cherng** / Association of World Citizens (AWC), USA / **The Practice and Vision of Conscience Culture: A Global Civilizational Opportunity through Multilateral Collaboration**

**Aurora Li** / Graduate Student, National Taiwan Normal University, Taipei, Taiwan  
**/ Inner Peace as a Starting Point: Qigong, Martial Arts, and Nutrition as Cultural Responses to the Challenges of Globalization**

**Massimo Introvigne** / CESNUR, Center for Studies of New Religions, Torino, Italy  
**/ Who Is Afraid of Qigong? Anti-Cultism and the Repression of Chi-Based Group**

**DISCUSSION**

**10.30-11.00**

**Coffee break**

**24.06.2025**



**11.00-12.00**

## **Working session II**

### **Sacred Eroticism, Sexual Abuse, and Misunderstandings: Tantra-Based New Religious Movements**

**Moderator: Rosita Šorytè** / European Federation for Freedom of Belief, Turin and Rome, Italy

**Camelia Marin** / Soteria International, Copenhagen, Denmark / **Sacred Eroticism in Theory and in Practice**

**Massimo Introvigne** / CESNUR, Center for Studies of New Religions, Torino, Italy / **Sacred Eroticism and Sexual Abuse: Social and Legal Issues**

**Rosita Šorytè** / European Federation for Freedom of Belief, Turin and Rome, Italy / **Sensationalized Media Representations of Sacred Eroticism Groups**

**DISCUSSION**

**12.00-13.00**

**Lunch**

**13.00-15.00**

## **Working session III**

**Moderator: Željko Pavić** / Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia

**24.06.2025**

**Naum Ilievski** / International Slavic University “G. R. Derzhavin,” Sveti Nikole, North Macedonia and **Angelina Ilievska** / Private Practice, Skopje, North Macedonia / **The Kingdom of Heaven or the Kingdom on Earth – Religion and the Process of Globalization**

**Olivera Trajkovska and Ognjen Kocovski** / Commission for Relations with Religious Communities and Groups, North Macedonia / **Research by the Macedonian Commission for Relations with Religious Communities and Religious Groups on the Attitudes of Youth Toward Religion, Ethics, and Everyday Challenges**

**Ratko Duev, Sofija Georgievska and Natasha Stanojkovska Trajkovska** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **From Ancient Tolerance to Contemporary Conflicts: Interreligious and Interethnic Relations and Their Impact on Global Security, with a Special Focus on the Balkans**

**Emil Dimitriev** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **The attitude of the Christian democratic political party VMRO DPMNE towards its members of the Muslim faith**

**Boban Mitevski** / Macedonian Orthodox Church - Ohrid Archbishopric, Justiniana Prima / **The Importance of Religious Service – Chaplainship in Prisons for the Peneological-Criminalist and Security System of the Republic of North Macedonia**

**Qani Nesimi, Ibish Kadriu and Besime Lutfiji** / University of Tetovo, North Macedonia / **Environmental pollution and the breakdown of interpersonal relationships as an aftereffect of defilement of the human interior porano**

**DISCUSSION**

**15.00-15.30**

**Coffee break**

**24.06.2025**

**15.30-16.30**

## **Working session IV**

**Moderator: Ratko Duev** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia

**Dejan Donev** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **Kungs Global Ethics (On Religious Morality and Universal Responsibility and Dialogue)**

**Ivica Kelam** / Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia / **The Religious Roots of the Ecological Crisis: An Analysis of Lynn White's Critique of Western Christianity**

**Željko Pavić** / Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia / **Predictors of religious (in)tolerance in Croatian society**

## **DISCUSSION**

**17.00**

**Visit to the cultural and historical monuments in Krushevo (Churches "Saint Nikola", "Saint Jovan" and "Saint Bogorodica"; Monasteries "Saint Spas", "Saint Vasilie Veliki" and "Saint Preobrazenie"; Mechkin Kamen, Monument "Ilinden" and the Nikola Martinoski Gallery)**

**20.00**

**Dinner in a traditional Macedonian restaurant**

**25.06.2025**



**09.00-11.00**

## **Working session V**

**Moderator: Zoran Matevski** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia

**Carmen-Gabriela Lazareanu and Vlad Leontie** / Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iași, Romania / **Religion as a cause of conflict and a promoter of peace**

**Gerard Kester** / International Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands / **War or Peace? (Can Religions Make the Difference)**

**Maite Hes** / Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, The Netherlands / **The Migrant in the Mirror: Dutch Student Attitudes Towards Young Asylum Status Holders in Amsterdam**

**Alexander Hwang** / President and CEO, Two Cities Press, USA / **Globalization and the End of Christianity**

**Daniel Bramer** / Holy Family University, Philadelphia, USA / **Be Fruitful, and Multiply: The irony of globalization and its impact on religious dialogue**

**Silvia Mangano** / Pontifical Gregorian University – Faculty of Theology, Italy / **Inculturation and globalization: The model of the Catholic Church Between Fidelity to the Gospel and Dialog with Contemporary Society**

**DISCUSSION**

**11.00-11.30**

**Coffee break**



**25.06.2025**

**11.30-13.30**

## **Working session VI**

**Moderator: Alexander Hwang / President and CEO, Two Cities Press, USA**

**Marcin Składanowski / The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland / Religion and the ontological security of the state: The case of Russia**

**Nadiia Volik / Ternopil Volodymyr Hnatiuk National Pedagogical University, Ternopil, Ukraine / Ukrainian Churches in the Online Space: Legal Aspects and Challenges of Digital Transformation (online)**

**Iulian Moga / Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Romania and Ștefan Honcu / Institute of Archaeology, Iași, Romania / The Holy Fools of Sankt Petersburg**

**Vladan Stanković and Zoran Milosavljević / Institute for Political Studies, Belgrade, Serbia / Religious Integralism and Civilizations: Globalizing Cultures Trough Religion**

**Danica Igrutinović / Faculty of Media and Communications, Serbia / Deep Inside of a Parallel Universe: Religious Elements in Media Discourse Surrounding the Student Movement in Serbia**

**Daniel Kisliakov / University of Divinity, Melbourne, Australia / Australian Realism and Ethnocultural Integratedness in a Pluralistic Age**

**DISCUSSION**

**13.30-14.30**

**Lunch**

**25.06.2025**

**14.30-15.30**

## **Working session VII**

**Moderator: Marcin Składanowski** / The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland

**Enis Muarem** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **The Influence of Islamic Teachings on the Political Attitudes and Governance Practices of Muslims in North Macedonia: A Sociological Perspective**

**Yana Fileva** / South-West University "Neofit Rilski", Bulgaria / **Bulgarian New Ageism and Civic-Religious Ideology**

**Martin Tasevski** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **Horizons of Expectation and Religious Interaction in the First Half of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century Ottoman Macedonia: A Gadamerian Perspective**

**Stefan Vasev** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **The Sacred and the Bodily: An Interdisciplinary Dialogue on Sexuality and Religious Discourse in Contemporary Society**

## **DISCUSSION**

**16.00**

**Visit to the "Holy Transfiguration" Monastery" - Zrze and to the "Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary" Monastery – Treskavec**

**20.00**

**Dinner in a traditional Macedonian restaurant**

**26.06.2025**

**09.00-11.00**

## **Working session VIII**

**Moderator: Vladan Stanković / Institute for Political Studies, Belgrade, Serbia**

**Mario Marinov / South-West University "Neofit Rilski", Bulgaria / New Religious Movements in Bulgaria and Globalization**

**Reet Hiimäe / Department of Folkloristics, Estonian Literary Museum, Estonia / Revisiting Spatial Turn in Religion: The Example of Mental Mapping of Environmental Health Crises**

**Nora Lombardini / Dept. of Architecture, Built environment and Construction engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Italy / Restoration and Conservation of Historical Remains of Churches in Between Two Religions (The case of the Monastery of the Sevene Churches in Caucasus)**

**Ivana Krstić Mistridželović / University of Criminal investigation and Police studies, Serbia / The Position of Jews in the Serbia of Prince Milos – An Example of Progressive Political Practice in the Protection of Minoriti Rights**

**Rochelle Robbins / Psychologist in Private Practice, USA / What Makes Us Different, What Makes Us the Same?**

**Waldemar Cisto and Paulina Jabłońska / University in Warsaw, Poland / The Church Engaging in Dialogue with Contemporary Global Structures of the World**

**Taeha An and Donghyung Lee / Yale University, USA / Christian Hospitality and Secular Toleration: A Politico-Theological Analysis of Popular Representations of Korean Chinese (Joseonjok) Migrant Workers**

**DISCUSSION**

**26.06.2025**

**11.00-11.30**

**Coffee break**

**11.30-14.00**

**Working session IX**

**Moderator: Reet Hiimäe** / Department of Folkloristics, Estonian Literary Museum, Estonia

**Hundzukani P. Khosa and Avheani Carol Ravele** / University of Venda, South Africa / **Discontinuation of Religious education in Primary Schools in the Age of Globalization: A Challenge in South Africa**

**Thizwilondi Josephine Mudau and Ndidzulafhi Mudau** / University of Venda, South Africa / **Womens Religious Leadership in a Globalized world: Negotiating Traditional Barriers and Digital Opportunities**

**Mashudu Edward Muthivhi** / University of Venda, South Africa / **Postcolonial Worship in the Marketplace: The Economic Dynamics of Rural Neo-Pentecostal Religiosity in Global Systems**

**Ndidzulafhi Mudau and Rendani Tshifhumulo** / University of Venda, South Africa / **Religious Transformation in the Age of Globalization: A Case Study of Thohoyandou, South Africa 2015-2025**

**Matodzi Nancy Lambani** / University of Venda, South Africa / **Selected Common Errors Committed by South African Pastors in English Communication**

**Tahereh Salehi** / Alzahra University, Iran / **Religious Identity in the Age of Globalization**

**26.06.2025**

**Mohammad Reza Shahroodi, Mahdiyeh Pakravan and Negin Maftooni** / University of Tehran, Iran / **The situation of religions followers at the era of appearance of the Savior, based on Shia Muslims' viewpoints (online)**

**Lavyniukova Anna-Valeriia** / Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine / **The Wars Impact on Religion in Ukraine: A Challenge to Globalization Trends (online)**

**Andrii Paliukh** / Ternopil Volodymyr Hnatiuk National Pedagogical University, Ternopil, Ukraine / **Freedom of Religion in Ukraine: Constitutional Guarantees and Contemporary Challenges (1991–2024) (online)**

**Ivana Gegoska** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **A Literature Review: Research Finding on Relation Between Religion and New Social Media**

**Marija Drakulovska Chukalevska, Ivana Gegoska and Ivanna Hadjievaska Angelov** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, North Macedonia / **Globalization and Glocalization: The Challenges of Religion**

**Vladimir Trajkovski** / SS. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia / **Autism Spectrum Disorder and Religious Inclusion**

**DISCUSSION**

**14.00**

**Closing of the Conference**



**14.30-15.30**

**Lunch**

**16.00**

**Visit to the city of Prilep with its cultural and historical monuments and religious buildings**

**20.00**

**Dinner in a traditional Macedonian restaurant**

**27.06.2025**

**09.00**

**Bus transportation from Krushevo to Skopje for the participants of the Conference (the parking lot of Hotel Montana)**