

CALL FOR PAPERS RELIGIOUS WORLDMAKING

Exploring ideological uses of religion in making or breaking fundamental norms in contemporary world politics

PARIS, 25-26 November 2024

Sciences Po, Centre de recherches internationales

Convener: Dr Marina Calculli

In a world dominated by states, secular practices may appear to underpin the basic common framework that enables state and non-state actors alike to pursue their individual goals and projects. Yet religion remains a potent force, mainly because it serves as a means for states to advance their ideological projects, but also because of confessional actors that defend their beliefs in a world system marked by secular ideology. There is a myriad of ways in which religion serves to advance ideological projects domestically and internationally, that destabilise or stabilise shared understandings of basic norms underpinning international order, or give rise to new norms.



The aim of this conference is to account for the types of effects that the ideological use of religion has on the normative structure of world order, against a backdrop of global reordering and fundamental uncertainty about basic norms and their sustainability. More specifically, it seeks to explore three aspects of ideological uses of religion that aim to:

- i.* redefine or undermine fundamental norms (e.g. *ius cogens*) that are universally shared and accepted;
- ii.* restore or strengthen fundamental norms;
- iii.* create new fundamental norms or universalise particularist practices.

The overarching objective is to explore the diversity of effects and the vector of their movement in relation to change and continuity in the global normative structure. We are particularly interested in papers that analyse contemporary practices of ideological uses of religion, preferably in a comparative and analytical fashion, to unearth common patterns or deviant practices.

HOW TO APPLY: Please send an abstract of no more than 350 words and a short bio in one single file to Dr Marina Calculli (marina.calculli@sciencespo.fr) by **10 September 2024**. Participants will be notified by 30 September 2024.

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant agreement n. 101032546.

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