

# The **Commercialisation** of **Religions**

## **SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM**

15 – 17 September 2023

46 Makedonitissas Avenue  
CY-2417 Nicosia, Cyprus



## FRIDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER 2023

MILLENNIUM BUILDING- Auditorium Jean Monnet

- 4:00 p.m. Registration and Welcome Cocktail
- 5:00 p.m. Opening Ceremony  
The opening ceremony will be addressed by her excellency, the Minister of Justice and Public Order,
- 5:10-6:00 p.m. Welcoming Addresses  
**Ednan Aslan**  
University of Vienna  
**Christos Economou**  
University of Nicosia  
**Panayiotis Angelides**  
University of Nicosia
- 5:30 p.m. **Anna Koukkides-Procopiou**  
Minister of Justice and Public Order  
of the Republic of Cyprus  
**Eliana Hadjioannou**  
Inspector of Religious Education, representing the Minister  
of Education, Sport and Youth, Dr. Athena Michaelidou  
**Areti Demosthenous**  
Institute of Historical Research for Peace  
Moderation: Evangelia Hadjiconstantinou
- 6:00-6:30 p.m. **Musical accompaniment**  
Traditional Cypriot music by Koulla Christodoulou (singer),  
Panos Moutzidis (bouzouki), Foivos Stavrou (violin).
- 6:30-7:00 p.m. **Keynote Speech**  
The Birth of Religion from the Spirit of Capitalism –  
Religion and Economy in the Global World of the 21st Century  
**Christian Danz**  
University of Vienna
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. Official reception of conference
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## SATURDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 2023

EUROPE BUILDING- NEWTON&PLATON

**Moderation:** Tamara Nili-Freudenschuss

9:00-9:30 a.m.

**Keynote Speech**

Commercialisation of religions worldwide: A look through Ninian Smart's Seven Dimensions of Religion

**Tuomas Martikainen**

University of Helsinki

### SESSION I – COMMERCIALIZATION OF RELIGION

9:30-09:50 a.m.

Connection and multi-layered relationship  
between religion and economic

**Nicole Bauer**

University of Graz

9:50-10:10 a.m.

Commercialisation of Religion in Ancient Greece and in Cyprus

**Areti Demosthenous**

Institute of Historical Research for Peace, Cyprus

10:10-10:30 a.m.

Mission Trips, Commercialization of a mission?

**Halil Demir**

Zakat Foundation, Chicago

10:30-10:50 a.m.

Panel Discussion

10:50-11:15 a.m.

COFFEE BREAK

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## SATURDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 2023

EUROPE BUILDING- NEWTON&PLATON

### SESSION II – ISLAMIC CONTENTS AS TOOLS FOR COMMERCIALIZATION

**Moderation:** Zekirija Sejdini

- 11:15-11:35 a.m. From Religion to Religiosity: Transformation of Discourse to Narrative  
**Farid Mirbagheri**  
Strategy International, Nicosia
- 11:35-11:55 a.m. The advertising of Islamic Fashion and Lifestyle on Social Media  
**Jörg Imran Schröter**  
University of Education Karlsruhe
- 11:55 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Earning a Living in the Service of God:  
Religious Rites and the Issue of Remuneration  
in the Islamic Tradition  
**Oguzhan Tan**  
Ankara University
- 12:15-12:35 p.m. Panel Discussion
- 12:35-02:40 p.m. LUNCH BREAK
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## SATURDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 2023

EUROPE BUILDING- NEWTON&PLATON

### SESSION III – COMMERCIALIZATION OF ISLAM: FINANCIAL AND GENDER ASPECTS

**Moderation:** Zekirija Sejdini

- 02:40-03:00 p.m. Trade, Money and Commercialization of Religion in the Primary Sources of Islam: A Compact Analysis of Immanent Passages and Their Meaning in the Present  
**Ulvi Karagedik**  
University of Education Karlsruhe
- 03:00-03:20 p.m. The Intersection of Faith and Finance: Exploring the Impact of Islamic Finance on Financial Inclusion in Albania  
**Eugen Musta**  
Canadian Institute of Technology Tirana
- 03:20-03:40 p.m. The Aspects of Commercialization of Religion and Religious Practices in Latvia  
**Dzintra Iliško**  
Daugavpils University, Latvia
- 03:40-04:00 p.m. Panel Discussion
- 04:00-04:20 p.m. COFFEE BREAK
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## SATURDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER 2023

EUROPE BUILDING- NEWTON&PLATON

### SESSION IV – COMMERCIALIZATION OF ISLAM: FINANCIAL ASPECTS

**Moderation:** Areti Demosthenous

- 04:20-04:40 p.m. An Analytical Exploration and Assessment  
of the Commercialization of Islamic Financial Institutions  
**Bego Hasanovic**  
University of Vienna  
**Alija Avdukic**  
Dundee University
- 04:40-05:00 p.m. Billion-Dollar Fraud in the Name of Allah - Exploitation under the  
Disguise of a Religiously Sanctioned Ideal  
**Senol Yagdi**  
University of Vienna
- 05:00-05:20 p.m. The Commercialization of Religion: A Case Study  
on the Suleymanci Movement and its Implications  
within Muslim Communities  
**Mehmet Tuna**  
University of Innsbruck
- 05:20-05:40 p.m. Panel Discussion

DINNER

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## SUNDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ASTY HOTEL , 12 PRINGIPOS KAROLOU AYIOS DOMETIOS

**Moderation:** Ulvi Karagedik

09:00–09:30 a.m. Keynote Speech  
Process of Halalization  
**Birgit Krawietz**  
Free University of Berlin

### SESSION V – COMMERCE, SECULARIZATION AND RELIGION

09:30–09:50 a.m. Women’s Fashion and Islamic Theology  
**Ednan Aslan**  
University of Vienna

09:50–10:10 a.m. Pluralism and Commercialization in Contemporary Islam:  
Exploring Adaptations, Technological Advancements,  
and Social Media Dynamics in the Context of Religious  
Theological Discourse  
**Ibrahim Kocyigit**  
University of Vienna

10:10–10:30 a.m. Inner secularization and commercial goods  
**Cezar Dascalu**  
Romanian Academy – ICCV

10:30–10:50 a.m. Panel Discussion

10:50–11:10 a.m. COFFEE BREAK

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## SUNDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER 2023

ASTY HOEL, 12 PRINGIPOS KAROLOU AYIOS DOMESTIOS

### SESSION V – COMMERCE, SECULARIZATION AND RELIGION

**Moderation:** Ednan Aslan

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| 11:10-11:30 a.m. | Market, Religion and Secularization<br><b>Laurentiu D. Tănase</b><br>University of Bucarest<br><b>Cezar Dascalu</b><br>Romanian Academy-ICCV     |
| 11:30-11:50 a.m. | Turning the Hamas into a globalized unifier<br><b>Raphael Israeli</b><br>Hebrew University Jerusalem<br>Adjusting the Focus: The Role of Applied |
| 11:50-12:10 a.m. | Humanities in Rectifying the Commercialization of Religion in a Globalized World<br><b>André Goodfriend</b><br>Former American Ambassador        |
| 12:10-12:30 p.m. | Panel Discussion   |
| 12:30-01:00 p.m. | Closing Session<br><br>Ednan Aslan<br>Christos Economou  |

**END OF THE SYMPOSIUM AND EXCURSION IN NICOSIA**

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UNIC PREMISES:	
1	CENTRAL BUILDING
2	MILLENNIUM BUILDING
3	EUROPA BUILDING
4	LIBRARY & STUDENT AFFAIRS
5	MEDICAL SCHOOL BLOCK C / DISTANCE LEARNING UNIT
6	SPORTS CENTRE / DANCE STUDIO 1
7	DANCE STUDIO 2

8	EDUCATION BUILDING
9	HUMANITIES BUILDING
10	FACULTY OFFICES / GLOBAL SEMESTERS
11	FINE ART BUILDING
12	ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH CENTRE (ARC)
13	MEDICAL SCHOOL BLOCKS A & B UNIC HEALTH LIBRARY
14	RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY BUILDING / MEDICAL CENTRE / VETERINARY SCHOOL LABORATORIES
15	UFIT FITNESS CENTRE / RECRUITMENT UNIT

16	INSIGHTS MARKET RESEARCH (IMR)
17	CENTRE FOR THERAPY TRAINING AND RESEARCH (KESY) *
UNIC STUDENT RESIDENCES:	
18	SIX RESIDENCE
19	U RESIDENCE
20	TRIANGLE RESIDENCE
COLLABORATIVE INSTITUTE:	
21	CYPRUS INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY & GENETICS

	PRIVATE RESIDENCES
	RETAIL
	CAFES & RESTAURANTS
	CLUBS & BARS
	BANKS
	SUPERMARKETS & BAKERIES
	PHARMACIES
	ELECTRONICS



  
 UNIVERSITY of NICOSIA  
**UNIC CITY**

## AIRPORTS

### 1. LARNACA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT “GLAUKOS KLIRIDIS”

Located in Larnaca, 53km south of Nicosia. There are two options to navigate from the airport to Nicosia; either by taxi, or by the Kapnos Airport Shuttle.

### 2. PAPHOS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Located in Paphos, 145km west of Nicosia. There are two options to navigate from the airport to Nicosia: either by taxi, or by the Kapnos Airport Shuttle.

## NAVIGATION

### TAXI

For taxi services you may contact Mr. Antonis Hadjipolycarpou at 00357 99529036 (special price for UNIC) or any taxi service from the airport.

### AIRPORT SHUTTLE

Kapnos Airport Shuttle is a private airport shuttle company that offers daily routes from their station in Nicosia to the two international airports of the island and back at Kyrinias Street, Nicosia, as well as a route between the two airports. Booking your seat is mandatory and you can do it using the following link <https://kapnosairportshuttle.com>. From their station in Nicosia, you can then take a taxi to navigate within the city.

### PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Public transportation in Nicosia is provided by the Cyprus Public Transport company that offers a variety of bus routes within the city as well as to the rural areas of Nicosia. More information, bus routes, tickets and schedules either on the following link [www.publictransport.com.cy](http://www.publictransport.com.cy) or by downloading the application “Pame App” that is available for both iPhone and Android.