The Project

The "Religion and Values in Central and Eastern Europe" conference, the closing conference of the EU Framework 6 supported international network (Religions and Values in Central and Eastern Europe Research Network - REVACERN). The web brings together 13 institutions of 10 countries (Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Ukraine), all involved in religion related researches. The network - coordinated by the Department for the Study of Religion of the University of Szeged - tackles the most important religious issues and processes, as well as value changes. It is an important part of the project to make the results of researches made in CEE countries available at international level, incorporating them into a broader scientific communication. Supporting relevant work of young researchers and building up a researcher social network for them is also in the focus point of the project.

Issues Concerned

REVACERN would like to contribute to the religion and value related academic and political discourse in the region with the following issues:

Religious and value trends 20 years after the change of the regime

New religious phenomena and movements

Legal regulation of the religious sphere

Challenges of the orthodox Europe

Religion and education

Religion and nation - motivation and reconstruction
Objective of the Conference

The objective of the conference – organized by the Department for the Study of Religion of the University of Szeged and its partners – is to involve the experts of REVACERN, politicians and policy makers of the relevant issues in a dialogue in order to elaborate common results that can serve as guidelines to tackle religion and value related issues of the CEE region, and hopefully other regions of the EU. The funding documents of the EU consider religious freedom as a fundamental human right at the highest level, and they are on the side of religious neutrality, nevertheless, the European Union is open to tackle religion related issues and values of the societies of the member states. The generous support given to our project REVACERN is a proof of this interest and also the expectation to have scientifically correct, politically relevant and actual pieces of information and guidelines at the disposal of decision makers. Each of the above mentioned themes has relevancy in a social and political field in which the peculiarities of the region are evident and towards which different political decision and view changes are necessary.

Key Speakers (subject to change)

» Zoltán Balog – Head of the Hungarian Parliament’s Committee for Human Rights, Minority, Civic and Religious Affairs (opening speech)

» Prof. em. DDr. Paul M. Zulehner (University of Vienna) – Representative of the REVACERN research network

» Cardinal Dr. Péter Erdő, President of CCEE, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest and Primate of Hungary

Date and Venue of the Conference

The conference will take place in Budapest (Hungary), in a conference hall of the Building of the Hungarian Parliament on 13 and 14 November 2009.
Panel Discussions

The following workshops are planned (workshops will involve scholars, church representatives and politicians):

**Religious and value trends 20 years after the change of the regime**
REVACERN Contributor: Regina Polak, University Vienna, Austria

**New religious phenomena and movements**
REVACERN Contributor: Rafal Smoczinsky, University Warsaw, Poland

**Legal regulation of the religious sphere**
REVACERN Contributor: Szurmoni Szabolcs, Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest, Hungary

**Challenges of the orthodox Europe**
REVACERN Contributor: Victor Yelensky, Ukrainian National Academy of Science, Kiev, Ukraine

**Religion and Education**
REVACERN Contributor: Gabriella Pusztai, University of Debrecen, Hungary

**Religion and nation - motivation and reconstruction**
REVACERN Contributor: Miklós Tomka, Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest, Hungary

Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November 13</th>
<th>November 14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>9:00-9:30</strong> Registration</td>
<td><strong>Panel 5: Religion and education</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9:30-9:45</strong> Opening speech</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9:45-10:15</strong> Key speaker’s session</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10:15-10:30</strong></td>
<td><strong>Panel 6: Religion and nation - motivation and reconstruction</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10:30-11:00</strong> Coffee break</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11:00-11:15</strong></td>
<td><strong>Closing speech</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11:15-11:35</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>11:45-12:30</strong> Panel 1: Religious and value trends 20 years after the change of the regime</td>
<td><strong>Coffee break</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12:00-12:30</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>12:30-13:00</strong> Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>13:00-14:30</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>14:30-15:45</strong> Panel 2: New religious phenomena and movements</td>
<td><strong>Departure</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>15:45-16:00</strong> Coffee break</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>16:00-17:15</strong> Panel 3: Legal regulation of the religious sphere</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>17:15-17:30</strong> Coffee break</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>17:30-18:45</strong> Panel 4: Challenges of the orthodox Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>18:45-20:15</strong> Reception dinner</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

“For further information please contact Mr. Miklós Budai at konferencia@hungarofest.hu”

„Panel discussions will involve scholars, church representatives and politicians“
Partner Institutions

University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Budapest, Hungary
Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, Poland
University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
University of Debrecen, Debrecen, Hungary
Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic
Institute for Social Research, Zagreb, Croatia
Center for Interreligious Dialogue and Conflict Prevention, Sofia, Bulgaria
Ukrainian Academy of Science (Skovoroda Institute), Kiev, Ukraine
Max Weber Foundation, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland
Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia
The Hungarian Parliament’s Committee for Human Rights, Minority, Civic and Religious Affairs Secretariat of Church Relations, Budapest, Hungary
Ministry of Education and Culture of Hungary, Budapest, Hungary
Institute for State-Church Relations, Bratislava, Slovakia
International Multireligious Intercultural Centre, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Registration

Registration is free of charge and compulsory. You can register at http://tinyurl.com/revacernconference. For further details, please contact Mr. Miklós Budai at konferencia@hungarofest.hu. Places are limited.