

ISORECEA

in cooperation with

University College Bedër, Tirana

and

**COST Action “Connecting Theory
and Practical Issues of Migration and
Religious Diversity” (COREnet)**

CALL FOR PAPERS

16th ISORECEA conference

ISORECEA



 **corenet**



Religious Diversity and Social Cohesion in Central and Eastern Europe and Beyond

Tirana, Albania, April 25–27, 2024

Religious diversity has traditionally been an important feature of Central and Eastern European (CEE) societies. The different denominations of Western and Eastern Christianity, as well as Islam, have a long history in the region, going back many centuries. In addition, new religious movements and spiritual phenomena took root after 1990 and in many places even before.

Religion may play an important role in the integration of society. However, religious diversity, often linked to different national identities, poses a number of challenges for societies in the region. The war in Yugoslavia in the 1990s is the most prominent example, but religious differences are also at play in the aggressive Russian war in Ukraine, despite being between two countries where Orthodoxy plays an important role. Global migration patterns have also contributed to the emerging religious diversity.

Another potential cleavage of religious differences is the one between the religious and non-religious sections of these societies. The full picture of religious diversity also includes emerging different forms of non-religion.

This conference will explore the complex interplay between religious diversity and social cohesion in the dynamic context of Central and Eastern European societies and beyond. We invite scholars from the humanities and social sciences to discuss the processes of religious diversification, the changing religious composition of societies, and the social impact of these changes. How do general processes of religious change and religious individualization affect religious diversity? What are the prevailing public attitudes towards religious diversity, and what social and political factors influence them? How do religions and religious diversity contribute to or hinder social cohesion? What are the key factors for the peaceful coexistence of religions in contemporary societies?

We particularly and warmly welcome papers that address these and related questions and which focus on Central and Eastern Europe and beyond.

The **conference topics** include, but are not limited to:

- theories, methods, and approaches to studying religious diversity in CEE and beyond;
- local constellations of religious diversity in the CEE region (as compared to other geopolitical locations) and in particular countries of the CEE;
- majority and minority religions and the relationships between them;
- public attitudes towards religious diversity, religious minorities, and new religious phenomena;
- the role of religion in social cohesion;
- religious features of a social-political polarization;
- case studies about the coexistence of different religions;
- religious diversity and migration;
- the impact of the war in Ukraine on religious diversity and social cohesion.

Please submit the abstract of your presentation (max. 200 words) by **filling in this form** by 15 December 2023. For abstract submissions, you can choose from two options: Oral presentation and Poster.

If you are interested in a specific topic related to religious diversity and social cohesion, you can organise a session/panel composed of 3–5 presentations. In this case, please submit a 200-word session proposal followed by full session details (names and affiliation of contributors, titles of their presentations) to agata.rejowska@uj.edu.pl. Please note that participants in your session should send in their abstracts individually (like all other conference participants) using the submission form by 15 December 2023.

If you are interested in organizing an Author meets critique session, please submit a session proposal including details of the volume to be discussed and its author(s) as well as names and affiliation of discussants to agata.rejowska@uj.edu.pl.

Key dates

December 15, 2023

Submission of paper and session proposals

January 15, 2024

Notification of acceptance and opening of the registration

January 31, 2024

Applications for the ISORECEA Solidarity Fund and Miklós Tomka Award

February 14, 2024

Announcing beneficiaries of the Solidarity Fund and the winner of the Miklós Tomka Award

February 29, 2024

Final date for registration for the conference

March 15, 2024

Final program

Fees

Please note that you must be a member of ISORECEA to present a paper. Scholars who are not currently members of ISORECEA are invited to submit a paper/session proposal. However, they must become ISORECEA members (i.e. have paid their membership fee for 2024-2025) by February 29, 2024, which is the final date for registration for the conference. The conference and membership fees for two years are as follows (in EURO) for countries falling into the ISA categories, A, B and C*:

CONFERENCE FEES

List of Countries*	A	B	C
Regular members	80	60	40
Retired	40	30	20
Students and unemployed	30	18	12

* According to the Table of Economies used by the International Sociological Association: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/table-of-economies-by-category>

MEMBERSHIP FEES

List of Countries*	A	B	C
Regular members	60	40	20
Retired, students and unemployed	30	20	10

* According to the Table of Economies used by the International Sociological Association:
<https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/membership/table-of-economies-by-category>

Those whose papers have been accepted for the conference will be asked to pay their fees through the PayPal system on the ISORECEA website or via bank transfer. Details will be available on <https://www.isorecea.net/>.

Members of COST Action COREnet whose papers are accepted need only pay the conference participants' fee.

Practical information

Conference venue, transport, etc. will be available on the ISORECEA website. For any questions related to the conference, please send an email to: agata.rejowska@uj.edu.pl.

**We are looking forward to
receiving your papers!**

Milda Ališauskienė

Chair of COREnet

Gergely Rosta

President of Isorecea

Genti Kruja

Chair of the Organizing
Committee