

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

**PhD Summer School
“Intersecting Gender, Religion and
Migration in Contemporary Society”**

Date: 25 June – 28 June 2024

Lisbon, Portugal

**Short biographies of the COREnet PhD Summer School
Teachers**

Teachers (in alphabetical order):

Dr. Annette Leis-Peters is a full Professor of the Sociology of Religion and Diaconal Studies at VID Specialized University in Norway. She holds a doctoral degree and an associate professorship in Sociology of Religion from Uppsala University in Sweden. At VID she is academically responsible for the PhD programme in Diakonia, Values and Professional Practice. Her research interests lie in the intersection between religion, civil society, welfare and migration. Within this field she has been involved in several Nordic and European research projects and published various articles in peer-reviewed journals and books. Most recently, she has edited the volume *Stuck in the Margins? Young people and faith-based organizations in South-African and Nordic localities* (2022) together with Ignatius Swart, Auli Vähäkangas and Marlize Rabe. She is also editor-in-chief of the interdisciplinary journal *Diakonia: Journal for the Study of Christian Social Practice*.

Dr. Arniika Kuusisto is a Professor at the Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland, and an Honorary Research Fellow at the Department of Education, University of Oxford, UK. Her research interests include questions related

to the place of religion in diverse societal and educational arenas, religious minority socialization, and the development of children's and young people's values and worldviews. She has led three Research Council of Finland-funded research projects, most recently Growing Up Radical? The role of educational institutions in guiding young people's worldview construction (2018-2023), and the presently ongoing Child in Time: Existential Resilience in Early Childhood (2023-2027). Her recent publications include the edited volumes *The Routledge International Handbook of the Place of Religion in Early Childhood Education and Care* (Routledge, 2022), *Religion and Worldviews in Education: The New Watershed* (Routledge, 2024; with Gearon, Poulter, Toom & Ubani), and the forthcoming *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and Education* (Oxford University Press, in press; with Gearon).

Dr. Dalia Leinartė is a full Professor of History at Vytautas Magnus University, and Fellow Commoner at University of Cambridge, Lucy Cavendish College. She is the author of *Family and the state in Soviet Lithuania. Gender, law and society*. Bloomsbury Academic, 2021, and *The Lithuanian Family in its European Context, 1800-1914: Marriage, Divorce and Flexible Communities*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2017, and *Adopting and Remembering Soviet Reality: Life Stories of Lithuanian Women, 1945-1970*. Brill, 2010; In 2018 Leinarte received the award of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS), Honorable mention for her book *The Lithuanian Family in Its European Context, 1800-1914: Marriage, Divorce and Flexible Communities*. Leinartė serves as a member of the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

Dr. Inês Lourenço holds Ph.D. in Anthropology (Iscte, University Institute of Lisbon), is a researcher at Centre for Research in Anthropology (CRIA-Iscte), of which she is also a member of the board. She is an invited assistant professor at University Institute of Lisbon. Her main research is focused on the Indian Diaspora in Portugal, its processes of reproduction and cultural negotiation, of religious, social and gender adaptation. This research resulted from long-term fieldwork conducted in Portugal, complemented in India and in the UK. Other topics of interest are the consumption of Indian cultural commodities, such as Bollywood cinema and dance, and its related social uses in Portuguese society. Her current research addresses the migrant heritage of communities of Indian origin in Portugal (Gujarati-Hindus and Muslims, Goan-catholics and Punjabi -Sikhs), in articulation between museology and anthropology.

Dr. Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska is a full Professor of Psychology at Jesuit University Ignatianum in Cracow, Poland where she serves as a Chair of Dept of psychology of religion and spirituality. Her research and teaching areas: psychology of migration, psychology of religion and spirituality. She is recipient of International awards: Fulbright scholarship, Donner Institute scholarship, Kościuszko Foundation scholarship. Currently she serves as a member of the board of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion.

Dr. Milda Ališauskienė is a full Professor of Sociology at Vytautas Magnus University, Lithuania. Her research areas include religious diversity, gender and religion, religion and politics in the post-communist society, non-belief, and nones. She has published more than 40 scientific publications and contributed to collective monographs on secularization, social exclusion, and religious diversity in Lithuania. In 2023 she published the monograph “Minority Religions, Society and State in Contemporary Lithuania” (in Lithuanian). Since 2022 she has served as a vice president for the International Study of Religions in Eastern and Central Europe Association (ISORECEA). In 2021-2023 she led the international Baltic research program project „Religion and Gender Equality: Baltic and Nordic Developments.“ Since 2021, she serves as a chair of the COST Action 20107 “Connecting Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity.”

Dr. Raquel Carvalheira holds Ph.D. in Anthropology of Gender and Kinship (Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, 2015) and Invited Assistant Professor at NOVA University, School of Humanities and Social Sciences in Portugal. Her doctoral research addressed gender relations and family dynamics in Morocco, particularly changing values and practices concerning marriage and divorce. Currently, she is a postdoctoral researcher at the Centre for Research in Anthropology. Her subjects of research address gender, Islam, and citizenship, and she recently worked on charity and social care as forms of social participation among Muslims in Portugal.

Dr. Ronald Mayora Synnes is a sociologist specializing in religion and currently works as an associate professor at the University of Agder (UiA), Norway. Mayora Synnes leads the master’s program in Sociology and Social Work at the Faculty of Social Sciences at UiA. In his research, Mayora Synnes has focus on youth, ethnic minorities, religion, gender and ethnicity. Mayora Synnes has published several scientific articles, including "Dimensions of Ethnic Boundary-Making: Experiences of Young Muslims and Christians in Religious Transnational Fields in Oslo" (2023); "The Role of Religion in Young Muslims' and Christians' Self-presentation on Social Media (2021). "Ethnicity Negotiations: Strategies of Young Muslims and Christians" (2019). Since 2022, he is a member of the board of the University of Agder and sits on the Ministry of Education and Research's appointed committee for advice on gender equality and diversity in research (KIF 2022-2025).

Dr. Tuomas Martikainen is Rector of Swedish School of Social Science at the University of Helsinki, Finland. His areas of expertise include immigrant religions and migrant integration. He has published widely in the topics, including the monograph Religion, Migration, Settlement (2013), and co-edited volumes Muslims at the Margins of Europe (with José Mapril and Adil Khan, 2019) and Routledge International Handbook of Religion in Global Society (with Jayeel Cornelio, François Gauthier and Linda Woodhead, 2021).