

UNIVERSITY OF  
LUCERNE

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT FOR THE STUDY  
OF RELIGIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
30TH MARCH – 1ST APRIL 2023

# STRUCTURING DIVERSITY – STRUCTURING RELIGION.

RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY AND  
HUMAN HETEROGENEITY IN SOCIETY.

UNIVERSITY OF LUCERNE  
FROHBURGSTRASSE 3  
6002 LUCERNE

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SCHWEIZERISCHE GESELLSCHAFT FÜR  
RELIGIONSWISSENSCHAFT  
SOCIÉTÉ SUISSE DE SCIENCES DES  
RELIGIONS

# **How does religion structure diversity, and how does diversity structure religion(s)?**

Religion can be addressed as diversity category, organizing groups, power and knowledge within a society. At the same time, bodily and social differences interact with religious contexts.

By linking those topics, the conference contributes to a better understanding of social differences and inequalities caused or addressed by religions in a globalized world.

## **Convenors**

Dr Anne Beutter, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

Dr Ramona Jelinek-Menke, Philipps-University Marburg, Germany

Prof. Karina Kosicki Bellotti, Federal University of Paraná, Brazil

Sahra Lobina, MA, University of Lucerne, Switzerland

Brian McGowan, MA, Zurich University for Applied Sciences, Switzerland

# Program

**03/30/2023 DAY 1 - RELIGIONS AND CRITICAL DIVERSITY LITERACY HS 8**

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10:00–11:00 Arrival and Registration

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11:00–11:15 Opening

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11:15–13:15 **Introductory Keynotes: Religious Diversity and Critical Diversity Literacy**  
Lene Kühle, Aarhus (Denmark) & Melissa Steyn, Johannesburg (South Africa)

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13:15–14:30 Lunch Break

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**14:30–16:30 PANEL I – DIVERSITY STRATEGIES**

Rosa Lütge, Bremen (Germany)  
*Between diversity and equality – Strategies of subversion in Muslim online magazines*

Iuliia Korniiichuk, Kyiv/Warsaw (Poland/Ukraine)  
*Celebrating diversity in modern Ukraine: the role of the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and religious organisations*

Abdelmjid Kettioui, Meknès (Marocco)  
*Un/Doing 'critical diversity literacy' from outside the Islamic field: The case of Moroccan nonreligious activists in the diaspora*

Alice Küng, Fribourg (Switzerland)  
*Religion in the diversity management in companies in Switzerland*

**18:00–19:45 ÖFFENTLICHER VORTRAG HS 7**

Zeinab Ahmadi, Fribourg (Switzerland)  
**Diversität als Potential: Ressourcen muslimischer Jugendlicher an Schweizer Schulen**  
Universität Luzern, Hörsaal 7 (Public Lecture in German)

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10:30–11:15 Reflection I – looking back together on day I

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**11:30–13:00 PANEL II – INTRARELIGIOUS DIVERSITY IN CONTEXT**

Yuliya Aliyeva, Baku (Azerbaijan)

*Religious diversity strategies and non-traditional Christian communities in Baku: Negotiating Intra-Religious identity and intercommunity Solidarity*

Patrícia de Souza, São Paulo (Brazil)

*The subversive saints of Brazilian Umbanda*

Kwabena Asamoah Gyadu, Accra (Ghana)

*Being the body of Christ in the European diaspora: Challenges of diversity among African immigrant churches in Europe*

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13:00–14:00 Lunch Break

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**14:00–15:30 PANEL III: INTERRELIGIOUS DIVERSITY AND SPATIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

Mischa Piraud & Tatiana Roveri, Geneva (Switzerland)

*Dynamics of space production in mapping cantonal religious diversity*

Narciss M. Sohrabi, Paris (France)

*Space, architecture and visibility of religious diversity under socio-political conditions. Case Study: Tehran*

Atena Abdoli Masinan, Tehran (Iran)

*How to structure diversity and religion in ancient societies. A case study: The religion of the Mithra*

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15:30–16:00 Coffee Break

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16:00–17:30 Response and Discussion

Lene Kühle, Aarhus (Denmark)

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10:00–10:45 Reflection II – looking back together on day II

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**11:00–12:30 PANEL IV – SEX, GENDER AND RACE**

Maham Naseer, Göttingen (Germany)

*Devotional bliss and sensual amorousness – religiosity, sexuality, and femineity of a courtesan in the eighteenth-century Deccan of Mughal India*

Jennifer Ball, Bangor (United Kingdom/Wales)

*A queer path: An investigation into heteronormativity within contemporary paganism.*

Leandro de Paula, Salvador (Brazil)

*Religious diversity and racial politics in Salvador, Brazil*

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12:30–13:30 Lunch Break

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**13:30–15:00 PANEL V – ABLEISM AND INEQUALITY**

Tabea Eugster-Schaetzle, Basel (Switzerland)

*Un/doing precariat – Diaconic work and the asymmetry in society*

Yasmina Burezah, Bonn (Germany)

*The materiality of diversity –Kanye West between religion, race and disability*

Richard Saville-Smith, Isle of Skye (United Kingdom/Scotland)

*Introducing 'Acute Religious Experiences' as a contribution to structuring diversities*

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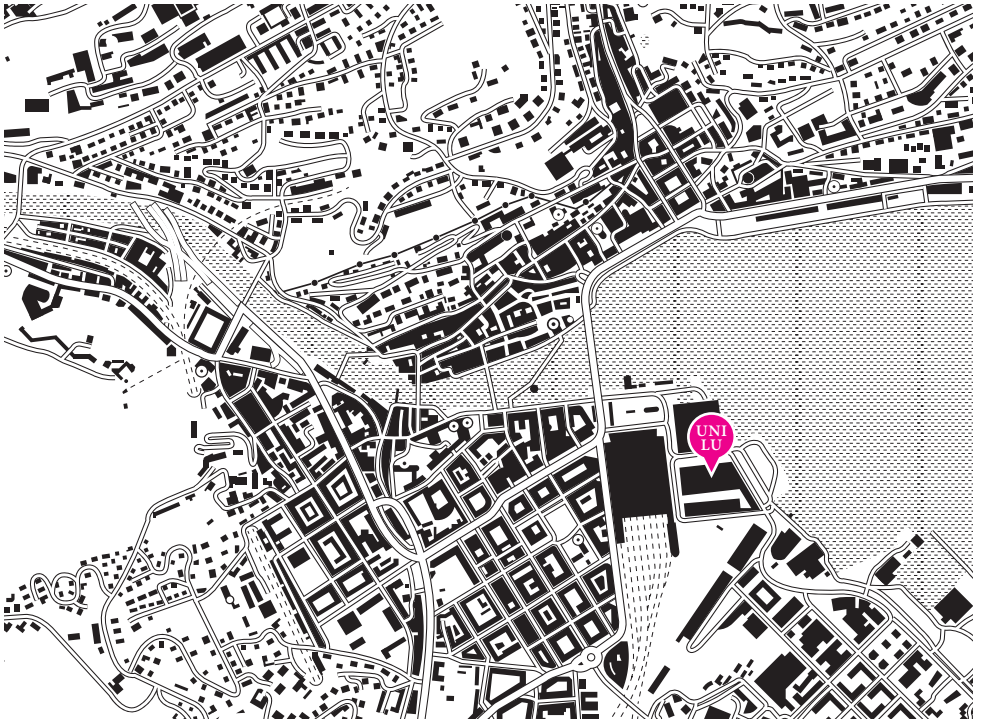
15:00–15:30 Coffee Break

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15:30–17:00 Response and Discussion  
Melissa Steyn, Johannesburg (South Africa)

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17:00–17:45 Reflection III – looking back together on day III – and Closing



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## ORGANISATION

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## LOCATION

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Hörsaal 8

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## MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION



[www.unilu.ch/  
diversityreligionconference](http://www.unilu.ch/diversityreligionconference)

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## SUPPORTED BY



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