Pious radicals?
Strong religion and politics in modern Europe

International Conference, Universität Siegen, Germany
14–15 March 2019

Organizer:
Professor Dr. Veronika Albrecht-Birkner
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Philosophical Faculty
Research Initiative Popular Cultures

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Thursday 14 March 2019

10.00 OPENING SESSION
Dr. Niels Werber, Professor of Modern German Literature, Dean of Philosophical Faculty, Speaker of Research Initiative Popular Cultures at the University of Siegen:
Welcome address

10.15 Keynote lecture I
Introduction and Chair: Veronika Albrecht-Birkner
Dr. Gert Pickel, Professor of Church- and Religious Sociology at University of Leipzig, Germany: “Strong religion and radical politics? Remarks and empirical evidence”

11.30 Paper session 1: Religion and Revolution: Examples of France and Russia
Chair: Fred van Lieburg
Manuel Stadler (Leipzig/DE): Schism and Terror during the French Revolution
Igor Mikeshin (St. Petersburg/RU): The Revolutionary, the Martyr, the Apolitical: Political Narratives of Russian Evangelicals

12.30 LUNCH

13.30 Paper session 2: Religion and Politics: Examples of Germany, Norway and Finland
Chair: Britta Schröder
Christo Lombaard (Pretoria/ZA): Weighing Carl Schmitt anew: Implicit Religion in politics
Gerd Snellmann, Jakob Dahlbacka (Turku/FI): Institutional trust in the Ostrobothnian Bible belt. Laestadian views on governing authorities and political activity
Svein Ivar Langhelle (Stavanger/NO): Conservative and pious, «preserving the Christian Society». A Norwegian case

15.45 COFFEE

16.15 Paper session 3: Religion and Fundamentalism: Examples of England and the Netherlands
Chair: Peter Achterberg
Koos-jan de Jager (Amsterdam/NL): Radical(s) against vaccination: conscience objections against vaccination among Dutch orthodox Protestants during the decolonization war in Indonesia, 1946-1951
Paul Vermeer, Peer Scheepers (Nijmegen/NL): Comparing political attitudes of evangelicals with the attitudes of mainline Christians and non-church members in the Netherlands

18.15 DINNER AT THE RESTAURANT OF DORINT PARKHOTEL
Friday 15 March 2019

9.00  **Keynote lecture II**  
*Introduction and Chair: Gert Pickel*

Dr. Peter Achterberg, Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Tilburg University, the Netherlands: “A second home for Christians? Unraveling the relationship between religious background and populist voting in the Netherlands”

10.15  **COFFEE**

10.45  **Paper session 4: Religion and identity: Example of Switzerland**  
*Chair: Gert Pickel*

Amir Sheikhzadegan, Michael Nollert (Fribourg/CH): Political engagement of orthodox, Muslim (re-) converts in Switzerland: Assessing the interaction of life-history, social networks and identity transformation

11.30  **Paper session 5: Religion, popular music and government support: Examples of Scandinavia, Russia and Serbia**  
*Chair: Florian Heesch*

Andreas Häger (Turku/Fl): The use of Bob Dylan’s music in church services

12.15  **LUNCH**

13.30  **Continuation of Paper session 5**

Thomas Bossius (Gothenburg/SE): “Can I Take My Dog with Me to Heaven?” Swedish Country Music and Religion

Sabina Hadžibulić (Uppsala/SE): God is in the House: Nick Cave, Religion and Serbian Fandom

14.45  **COFFEE**

15.15  **Continuation of Paper session 5**

David-Emil Wickström (Mannheim/DE): My Pravoslavnye – Russkii rok, Orthodoxy and nationalism in post-Soviet Russia

16.00  **CLOSING SESSION**  
*Chair: Veronika Albrecht-Birkner*

Final Discussion

Dr. Fred van Lieburg, Professor of Religious History at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands: Concluding note on the 3-years European Bible Belt project