

## **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

populäre  
kulturen

Research Initiative Popular Cultures



Netherlands Organisation  
for Scientific Research

The conference is an activity of the European Bible Belt project, funded by the Dutch research council NWO.

## 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

Jouko Talonen (Helsinki/FI): The Laestadian influence in Finnish politics, 1917–2017. General aspects

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*

Gerulf Hirt (Halle a.d. Saale/DE): "Jesus Saves, Rome Enslaves": "Protestant" Fundamentalists' Reactions to Anglican-Roman Catholic Rapprochements in 1960's England

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/FI): 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