

Youth Summer School 2016

Focal Theme: Religious Pluralism in the Middle East

Location: Seaside Town of Kiato, Greece

Overview

Purpose:

The 2016 PSIR Youth Summer School is designed to encourage and bring together scholars and students who display an interest or seek to develop a commitment to the study of the diversity of religions and ensuing cultural heritage in the Mediterranean and the Middle East. It particularly targets pre-early career university students of any level and young professionals who are strongly interested in deepening or gaining knowledge of the subject field and, thereby, acquiring a useful educational building block for further research or/and future professional career.

Topics:

- + Challenges and opportunities for religious pluralism in the Mediterranean and the Middle East,
- + Protection of the cultural and religious heritage with focus on international and regional means and understandings
- + Religious pluralism and co-existence in the Holy Land (Israel/Palestine),
- + Legal framework for the safeguarding and the broadening of religious pluralism in the region,
- + Geopolitics of religion and religious pluralism,
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Start Day: Tuesday, August 23rd, 2016.

Closing Day: Friday, August 26th, 2016.

The topics of the School are taught by experts of international and national origin, all with a university-based and research-led teaching experience. Faculty includes:

Faculty:

- ✚ **Mohamed Chtatou**, Professor, University of Mohammed V in Rabat,
- ✚ **Dr Emma Cunliffe**, Research Associate, School of Archaeology, University of Oxford,
- ✚ **Aggeliki Ziaka**, Associate Professor, Department of Theology, The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,
- ✚ **Sotiris Roussos**, Associate Professor, PSIR, University of the Peloponnese.

Teaching & Learning Features

Teaching Times:

The School is a full-time, four-day program consisting of a total of 20 class contact hours. Participants must attend all classes.

Forms of Teaching:

Teaching is organized around lectures coupled with question-answer sessions. Lectures are scheduled to be held in morning sessions.

Language of Instruction:

Teaching is instructed entirely in English. Applicants whose mother tongue is other than English must provide proof of English competency.

Learning Objectives:

The School sets out to prompt participants to deepen their academic interest and commitment to the subject field and empower them with the knowledge to:

- ❖ sketch out the current circumstances regarding challenges and opportunities for religious pluralism in the Mediterranean and the Middle East,
- ❖ analyze the impact of geopolitics of religion on the current situation in the Middle East,
- ❖ present various tools and initiatives for the Protection of the cultural and religious heritage,
- ❖ examine policies of addressing the ascent of religious extremism,
- ❖ offer an understanding of issues arising from the close co-existence of Holy Places in a land of conflicting national narratives,
- ❖ discuss specific examples of religious pluralism and inter-religious dialogue.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the School, participants are expected to:

- ✓ have developed a capacity to understand the complexity of the subject field and critically think about it from an interdisciplinary, multi-levelled and comparative perspective,
- ✓ demonstrate competence in synthesizing theoretical insights and arguments,
- ✓ have acquired extensive knowledge of religious dynamics and their impact on the political and social development in the Middle East and the Mediterranean,
- ✓ be able to analyze the reciprocal relationship of geopolitics and religious extremism in the Middle East and the Mediterranean,
- ✓ relate theory to practice in order to explain events, trends and occurrences concerning religious pluralism the Middle East and the Mediterranean,
- ✓ have enhanced their learning skills to publicly communicate in English, both in oral and written forms, for scholarly purposes.

Admission Information

Available Places:

The School is keen to offer 20 places on a rolling-admission and a first-reserved basis.

Entry Requirements:

Undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral students from countries and regions around the Mediterranean, who have good command of English and are studying social sciences and economics with a major in subjects including Political Science, International Relations, Economy, History, Civilization & Culture, and Area Studies, are eligible and welcome to attend the 2016 PSIR Youth Summer School.

Application Procedure:

- ✚ Early application is advised insofar as admission is subject to the availability of places offered on a first-come basis.
- ✚ Applications must be submitted along with all the supporting documents required, *via post or e-mail* respectively.
- ✚ All applicants are notified by email.
- ✚ Successful applicants must pay their registration fee by bank transfer within 15 days from the date of their acceptance notice.

Pricing:

| | Apply by 15 July 2016 | Apply after 15 July 2016 |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| PSIR Students (BA, MA, Ph.D): | 80 Euro | 100 Euro |
| Students or Applicants of the PSIR MA in Mediterranean Studies: | 90 Euro | 120 Euro |
| Students (BA, MA, Ph.D) from the Universities of: INALCO (France), Bologna (Italy), Yasar (Turkey), Neapolis-Pafos (Cyprus): | 90 Euro | 120 Euro |
| All Other Applicants | 100 Euro | 150 Euro |

- ✚ Application fees are payable only after a place has been offered.
- ✚ All fees above include a *non-refundable* administration fee of 50 Euros in the event of a cancellation.

**Accommodation,
Board & Travel:**

Participants must make their own arrangements for rental housing, meal and transport expenses. Upon enrollment and request, the School is able to reserve rooms in a local hotel at reduced rates.

School Director:

Sotiris Roussos, PSIR.

School Coordinating Committee:

Sotiris Roussos, PSIR,
Nikitas Koutsoukis, PSIR,
Efstathios T. Fakiolas, PSIR.