



*Salzburg Conversations on Religion*  
**Religion in Post-Communist Societies**  
**International Summer School**

<http://www.salzburger-hochschulwochen.at/>

The Department for Systematic Theology at the University of Salzburg and the Salzburger Hochschulwochen are organising the *Salzburg Conversations on Religion* on the topic of *Religion in Post-Communist Societies*. This International Summer School is a follow up project to the Salzburg Triennals of Religion (2013–2016) and will take place for the first time 2017.

The *Salzburg Conversations on Religion 2017* focus on academic perspectives from Middle and Eastern Europe. **Excellent PhD-students** as well as **postdoctoral researchers from Middle and Eastern Europe** are invited to come to Salzburg for intellectual exchange. This year's focus will be on matter of religions in primarily European post-communist contexts from a historical as well as a systematic perspective.

**31<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2016**  
**University of Salzburg**

Theories of secularization are still commonly used in order to understand religions in a variety of context. Oppositions to such approaches have been prominently raised by scholars like José Casanova and others. For post-communist societies the question of how political and cultural changes affected religious organisations, theories and spiritual worldviews *and vice versa* is not settled and still a wide field of research.

Relevant questions are: How can cultural, religious, political transformations be understood? How can they be described and linked to existing theories of religion? What are the main challenges for the study of religions? How can eastern Europe perspectives inspire and promote the debates on religion in present societies?

We accept proposals related to the above topics from **PhD-students and postdoctoral researchers from a range of fields, including Theology and Religious Studies, from Middle and Eastern Europe**. Successful applicants will receive

- free accommodation at St. Virgil ( <http://www.virgil.at/> ) including breakfast and lunch
- travel reimbursement up to € 250,--
- free participation in the cultural programme of the *Salzburger Hochschulwochen* (an renowned interdisciplinary academic conference, established 1931, [www.salzburger-hochschulwochen.at](http://www.salzburger-hochschulwochen.at) )

*Students from other parts of Europe and beyond* are invited to apply as well, but no scholarship can be awarded. The standard slot for presentations will be 40min (including questions). The conference language is English, knowledge of German is not required.

Applications should include a brief CV (incl. your postal address), an abstract of the intended paper (max. 300 words) and a short description of personal research interests (optional). Applications must be submitted to [religionsgespraeche@sbg.ac.at](mailto:religionsgespraeche@sbg.ac.at) ~~no later than 15<sup>th</sup> April 2017~~ – nota bene:

**The deadline for submitting applications has been extended.**

**New deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

The organising committee will **select 10 participants** who will be informed about their decision **by 20<sup>th</sup> May** 2017.

The Summer School will be chaired by **Dr. Martin Rötting**, Lecturer and Research Fellow at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University (Munich) and Paris Lodron-University (Salzburg). As part of his current research project on spiritual identities in present societies he is involved in field studies in Munich, Vilnius, Seoul and New York.

For further questions do not hesitate to contact  
Dr. Martin Rötting (project coordinator):  
[religionsgespraeche@sbg.ac.at](mailto:religionsgespraeche@sbg.ac.at)

