

Annual International Conference (XI)

RELIGION AND CAPITALISM IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY: values, identities, and politics



Srebrno jezero

4-5 September 2026

ORGANIZED BY

The Institute of Social Sciences in Belgrade
(Forum for Religious Issues)

The Center for Empirical Research of Religion,
Novi Sad

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Friday, September 4, 2026

- 12:00 – 12:15 **Opening of the international scientific conference**
- Marko JOVANOVIĆ**, PhD, Research Associate, Institute of Social Sciences, Center for Political Science Research and Public Opinion, President of the Program Committee, Belgrade
- Nena VASOJEVIĆ**, PhD, Deputy director, Head of the Centre for Sociological and Anthropological Research of the Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade, Vice-President of the Program Committee
- Zorica KUBURIĆ**, PhD, Head of the Center for Empirical Research of Religion, Novi Sad
- Mirko BLAGOJEVIĆ**, PhD, Head of the Forum for Religious Issues of the Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade

1st Session

Moderator: Danica IGRUTINOVIĆ, PhD conference

- 12:15 – 12:30 **Vladimir MENTUS, Jovana ZAFIROVIĆ**
Financial Stress, Religiosity, and Sense of Control – a Moderation Analysis across Europe
- 12:30 – 12:45 **Marko JOVANOVIĆ**
Islamic Economics of Muhammad Baqir Al-Sadr and Social Justice
- 12:45 – 13:00 **Ivan BLAZHEVSKI, Ruzhica CACANOSKA, Aleksandar GRIZHEV**
Marketing Religious and Spiritual Content in North Macedonia
- 13:00 – 13:15 **Marijana MAKSIMOVIĆ**
Religion and Economics: Religious Beliefs in the Time of Capital
- 13:15 – 13:45 **Discussion**
- 13:45 – 14:15 **COFFEE BREAK** ☕

2nd Session

Moderator: Milica JANKOVIĆ Msr

- ▶ 14:15 – 14:30 **Ivica KELAM**
Prophets of Post-Humanity: Tescreal as a Secular Eschatology of Techno-Capitalism
- ▶ 14:30 – 14:45 **Boris KASHNIKOV**
The Return of Patrimonial Capitalism and the Emergence of Kleptocratic States
- ▶ 14:45 – 15:00 **Valentina MILENKOVA, Albena NAKOVA**
Attitudes Towards Religiosity in Bulgarian Conditions
- ▶ 15:00 – 15:15 **Dejan DONEV**
The Imperative of Universal Responsibility and Dialogue and Global Ethics toward Peace in Today's Global Society
- ▶ 15:15 – 15:45 **Discussion**
- ▶ 15:45 – 16:15 **COFFEE BREAK** ☕

3rd Session

Moderator: Mirko BLAGOJEVIĆ, PhD

Russian language session

- ▶ 16:15 – 16:30 **Михаил Д. БАЙКОВ**
Религиозные организации в неолиберальной системе социальной политики постсоветской России (Religious Organizations in the Neo-Liberal Social Policy System of Post-Soviet Russia)
- ▶ 16:30 – 16:45 **Никита М. ПАВЛОВ**
Сети веры: религиозные общины и местная идентичность в постсоциалистических обществах (Networks of Faith: Religious Communities and Local Identity in Post-Socialist Societies)
- ▶ 16:45 – 17:00 **Антон С. ГЛАДКИЙ**
Сравнительный анализ культурных ценностей Сербии и России (Comparative Analysis of the Cultural Values of Serbia and Russia)

► 17:00 – 17:15

Мария В. РОСЛАВЦЕВА

Степень религиозности как аспект мотивации демографического поведения: картографический анализ (The Extent of Religiosity as an Aspect of Demographic Behavior Motivation: Cartographic Analysis)

► 17:15 – 17:45

COFFEE BREAK ☕

3rd Session (II)

Russian language session

Moderator: Mirko Blagojević, PhD

► 17:45 – 18:00

Мирко БЛАГОЕВИЧ

(Де)секуляризация православия: символические и реальные изменения – выводы и последствия ((De)secularization of Orthodoxy: Symbolic and Real Changes – Conclusions and Consequences)

► 18:00 – 18:15

Лъиляна ЧУМУРА

Солидарность, основанная на вере в современном обществе: миссия суверенного военного ордена Мальты (СМОН) – (Faith-Based Solidarity in Contemporary Society: The Mission of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM))

► 18:15 – 18:30

Davor ŽABARAC

Eucharist and the Limits of Exchange: Rethinking Gift beyond Capitalist Rationality

► 18:30 – 19:00

Discussion

► 19:00

DINNER ✂

Saturday, September 5, 2026

1st Session

Moderator: Zorica KUBURIĆ, PhD

- ▶ 9:00 – 9:15 **Ognjen STANKOVIĆ**
Religion, Consumer Culture and Public Deliberation: Civil Society between Commodification and Democratic Resistance
- ▶ 9:15 – 9:30 **Aleksandar MATKOVIĆ**
Occultism, Popular Culture, and Profit: a Janus-Faced Perspective on the Anti-Cult Moral Panic of the 1980s
- ▶ 9:30 – 9:45 **Dragana STOJANOVIĆ**
Shabbat Sanctity Revisited: a Palace in Time beyond Consumerism
- ▶ 9:45 – 10:05 **COFFEE BREAK** ☕
- ▶ 10:05 – 10:20 **Emilija MIJIĆ, Nena VASOJEVIĆ**
The Serbian Orthodox Church between Cultural Heritage and Investor Urbanism: The Case of the National Library of Serbia
- ▶ 10:20 – 10:35 **Aleksandar VASILJEVIĆ**
Ethics of Religious Building: Spiritual Mission and Social Responsibility
- ▶ 10:35 – 10:50 **Marko GALIĆ**
Lived Religion in the Marketplace: Adventist Entrepreneurship and the Moral Economy of Postsocialism
- ▶ 10:50 – 11:10 **Discussion**
- ▶ 11:10 – 11:40 **COFFEE BREAK** ☕

2nd Session

Moderator: Nena VASOJEVIĆ, PhD

- ▶ 11:40 – 11:55 **Danica IGRUTINOVIĆ**
The Powers of this World, Left and Right: Ideological Otherings in Soc-Adjacent Media Discourse
- ▶ 11:55 – 12:10 **Njegoš VUJADINOVIĆ, Danica LAZOVIĆ, Đurđica STANKOVIĆ**
Instrumentalization of Faith and Religious Identity as Political Capital in the Neoliberal Context: Comparative Case Studies of Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina
- ▶ 12:10 – 12:25 **Zorica KUBURIĆ**
Religious Identities and Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina – a Post-Socialist Context
- ▶ 12:25 – 12:40 **Anatolij MILOVANOVIĆ**
Religious Extremism in Bosnia and Herzegovina: An Abuse of Religious Freedom
- ▶ 12:40 – 12:55 **Zorica MRŠEVIĆ**
Christianity in Decline in Europe
- ▶ 12:55 – 13:15 **Discussion**
- ▶ 13:15 – 15:00 **LUNCH** 

3rd Session

Moderator: Zorica MRŠEVIĆ, PhD

- ▶ 15:00 – 15:15 **Sara STANIĆ JOVANOVIĆ, Slavoljub VUJOVIĆ, Milorad ŠOLEVIĆ**
From Pilgrimage to a Tourism Product: Religious Tourism and Capitalism in Contemporary Society
- ▶ 15:15 – 15:30 **Bojan M. TOMIĆ, Nebojša RADOVANOVIĆ**
Artificial Intelligence and Soteriological Narratives
- ▶ 15:30 – 15:45 **Mirela KYUCHUKOVA, Maria KASABOVA**
Religious Consideration after Secularisation: Holiness in Young People's Value System in the Light of the Spiritual Legacy of St. John of Rila

- ▶ 15:45 – 16:10 **COFFEE BREAK** ☕
- ▶ 16:10 – 16:25 **Nevena NOVAKOVIĆ**
The Culture of Late Capitalism and the Relativization of Religiosity through the Fluidity of Lifestyle
- ▶ 16:25 – 16:40 **Milica JANKOVIĆ**
Peacemaker vs. Peacekeeper: How the Biblical Concept of Peace Has Been Misunderstood within the Serbian Orthodox Church
- ▶ 16:40 – 16:55 **Sofija LJUBIŠIĆ**
The Impact of Socio-Economic Deprivation on the Importance of God
- ▶ 16:55 – 17:15 **Discussion**
- ▶ 17:15 – 17:35 **COFFEE BREAK** ☕

4th Session

Moderator: Dragana STOJANOVIĆ, PhD

- ▶ 17:35 – 17:50 **Dejan MASLIKOVIĆ, Natalija VULIKIĆ**
Social Justice between the Market and Human Dignity
- ▶ 17:50 – 18:05 **Dušica KOVAČEVIĆ**
Reframing Human Dignity: Between Religious Ethics and Neoliberal Rationality
- ▶ 18:05 – 18:20 **Veljko KOŠEVIĆ**
Religious Fictionalism in Neoliberalism
- ▶ 18:20 – 18:35 **Svetlana JANKOVIĆ**
Structural Violence and Religious Stabilisation in Peripheral Capitalism: a Comparative Analysis of Orthodox Discourse in Serbia and Greece (2009-2026)
- ▶ 18:35 – 19:10 **Discussion**
- ▶ 19:10 **Marko JOVANOVIĆ, Mirko BLAGOJEVIĆ**
Conclusions and the ending of conference
- ▶ 19:30 **DINNER** 🍴

