

Seminars and Events

"Islam in Europe through the Balkan Prism". Event organized by the ReligioWest project (EUI) and the University of Sarajevo -PLACE OF EVENT:University of Sarajevo

Date/Time

Thursday 24 October 2013 14:00 - 17:30

Friday 25 October 2013 09:00 - 17:00

Saturday 26 October 2013 09:00 - 12:00



The increasing presence of Muslims in Western Europe has generated a wealth of research on the twists and turns of their integration into the European currents. Endogenous Muslim populations, centuries-old communities that live in South-Eastern Europe and that have long engaged with and recast themselves vis-à-vis Western Europe, have received only scant attention in the burgeoning literature on European Islam. This conference aims to look at Islam in Europe "through the Balkan prism". What are the historical, institutional and religious traits that characterise endogenous European Muslims? How have they recast themselves vis-à-vis European models and ideas? What can their experiences teach us about forms and challenges of European Islam? Theoretically, we will take into account both top-down institutional factors that shape religious actors' politics and a bottom-up perspective which emphasises traits of faith communities and their practice of religiosity. Empirically, we will focus on faith communities in Islamic-majority countries or countries with substantial Muslim minorities in the Balkans. When exploring Islamic groups we are interested in both official central organizations recognised by the state and more autonomous voluntary groupings that thrive in the autonomous spaces of civil society. The workshop will convene at Sarajevo University, under the auspices of the Religio-West project (<http://www.eui.eu/Projects/ReligioWest/Home.aspx>) at RSCAS, EUI, Florence <http://www.eui.eu/DepartmentsAndCentres/RobertSchumanCentre/Index.aspx>, and the Faculty of Islamic Studies, at the University of Sarajevo <http://www.fin.ba/> .

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