

Congress location:

Juridicum, University of Vienna  
Schottenbastei 10-16  
1010 Vienna, Austria

Congress duration:

20.2.-23.2.2013

Thematic field of the congress:

The International Congress “Rethinking Europe with(out) Religion” reflects on the religious and political transformation processes in European contemporary societies in the context of a growing pluralism. It investigates the political role that religion can play for the unification process of Europe in times of crisis. “Rethinking Europe” is more than an economic challenge. It means searching for “a soul for Europe” (J. Delors). However, it is highly controversial if religion(s) can contribute anything at all to Europe and if so what this contribution may look like. Taking the philosophical and sociological debate on secularization of the last twenty years into consideration, leading scientists from various disciplines (philosophy, theology, social sciences et al.), who come from all over Europe try to explore the resources and mutual challenges for religion(s) and a post secular Europe.

The congress is organized by the interdisciplinary research platform “Religion and Transformation in Contemporary European Society” (RaT) at the University of Vienna. The congress is under the patronage of the representation of the European Commission in Austria.

Congress Homepage:

[www.rethinkingeurope.at](http://www.rethinkingeurope.at)

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Research Platform of the University of Vienna

**Religion and Transformation  
in Contemporary European Society**

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**International Congress  
Rethinking Europe  
with(out) Religion**

20.2.-23.2.2013, Vienna

## Time Schedule

### Wednesday, 20.2.2013

- 18:00 Congress Opening  
18:15 **Martin Riesebrodt** (Germany/USA)  
„Religion im pluralistischen Europa“  
19:15 Reception

### Thursday, 21.2.2013

#### **Secular and post secular Europe – perspectives of philosophy:**

- 9:00 Introduction  
9:15 **Thomas M. Schmidt** (Germany):  
„Reflexive Säkularisierung? Religiöser Glaube und öffentliche Vernunft“  
10:15 Discussion  
10:45 Coffee break  
11:00 **Cristina Lafont** (USA)  
„Religious Pluralism and the Obligation of Democratic Leadership“  
12:00 Discussion  
12:30 Lunch

#### **Secular and post secular Europe – perspectives of sociology:**

- 13:30 **Detlef Pollack** (Germany)  
„Religiöser Wandel in Ost- und Westeuropa: Soziologische Beschreibungen und Erklärungen“  
14:30 Discussion  
15:00 Coffee break  
15:15 **Martin Riesebrodt** (Germany/USA)  
„Diskussionsbeitrag zum Thema säkulares und postsäkulares Europa“  
15:45 Discussion  
16:15 Coffee break  
16:30 **Paper Panel I**

17:40 Coffee break

### **Paper Panel II**

18:50 End of the congress day

### Friday, 22.2.2013

#### **Plural Europe as touchstone of religions**

- 9:00 Introduction  
9:15 **Katharina von Schnurbein** (EU)  
„'Europa braucht eine Seele': der Dialog zwischen EU Institutionen und Kirchen, religiösen Gemeinschaften, sowie philosophischen und nicht-konfessionellen Organisationen“  
10:15 Discussion

#### **The contribution of religion(s) to the "Project Europe"**

- 11:00 **Isolde Charim** (Austria)  
„Die nicht-volle Identität. Jüdischer Beitrag zu einem Projekt Europa“  
12:00 Discussion  
12:30 Lunch  
13:30 **Marcello Neri** (Italy)  
„Nach dem Ende der Institutionen der Moderne. Christentum und Europa: ein gemeinsames Schicksal“  
14:30 Discussion

15:00 Coffee break

- 15:15 **Tahir Abbas** (Turkey)  
„Islam and Muslims in Europe today: from cultural assimilation to social integration“  
16:15 Discussion

16:45 Coffee break

### **Paper Panel III**

- 18:10 Coffee break  
18:20 **Paper Panel IV**  
19:20 End of the congress day

### Saturday, 23.2.2013

#### **The European experience: Politics and religion in Eastern Europe after the Iron Curtain**

- 8:30 Introduction  
8:45 **Erhard Busek** (Österreich)  
„Europa: Ergebnis von Religion und Kultur?“  
9:15 **Jakub Kloc-Konkołowicz** (Poland)  
„Parallele Welten des Geistigen. Die Verwandlung des Religiösen am Beispiel Polens“  
09:45 Discussion  
10:15 Coffee break  
10:30 **Sabrina Petra Ramet** (Norway)  
„Religious organizations and the legacy of communism in East Central Europe: Controversies about the past, challenges for the future“  
11:30 Discussion  
12:00 Coffee break  
**Rethinking Europe with(out) Religion**  
12:15 **Kurt Appel** (RaT Speaker)  
„Das Wesen von Europa besteht darin, über sich hinauszuweisen“  
12:45 **Angelika Walser / Rudolf Kaisler** (RaT)  
„Präsentation der Arbeit von RaT 2010-2012“  
13:15 Lunch

#### **End of congress**

- 14:30 RaT's invitation to:  
**A walk through Vienna**  
„Jewish-Turkish Vienna“ or  
„Christian (Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox) Vienna“

