



**University of Library Studies and IT (ULSIT)  
Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Partnership**

## **10<sup>th</sup> *Harmony in Diversity* Scientific Conference**

**10<sup>th</sup> December – the International Human Rights Day**

**December 8<sup>th</sup> 2023  
ULSIT, campus 2,  
69A Shipchenski prohod bld., Sofia  
(UTC/GMT +2 hours)**

### **P r o g r a m m e**

**9.30-11.30**                    ***Opening panel – room 309, floor 3***  
***Congratulatory addresses and speeches***  
[meet.google.com/njf-nopm-amz](https://meet.google.com/njf-nopm-amz)

Prof. Valeria Fol, D.Sc. (ULSIT): Athos Peninsula, Artemis-Bendida, Mount Athos and Virgin Mary. Why Artemis-Bendida and not Artemis *Eulinos* (*The Great Spinner*) or Artemis *Agrotera* (*Mistress of the Wild and the Hunt*)?

Marcel Israel, Ph.D. (Religions for Peace – Europe; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Linguistic-historical research on the surnames of Sephardic Jews in Bulgaria

Prof. Alexandra Kumanova, D.Sc. (ULSIT): The e-library cluster of the Student Scientific Society at ULSIT

Ventzeslav Sabev, Ph.D. candidate (ULSIT, Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Identity and belongings – their role a sustainable collective project

**11.30-12.30**                    ***Lunch break***  
**12.30-15.00**                    ***Panel sessions***  
**15.00-15.15**                    ***Coffee break***  
**15.15-17.30**                    ***Panel sessions***

12.30-15.00

**Panel 1. Religious diversity - room 309, floor 3**

**Moderator: Chief Asst. Prof. Svetla Shapkalova, Ph.D.**

[meet.google.com/kcw-ynuo-oud](https://meet.google.com/kcw-ynuo-oud)

- 12.30-12.45 Prof. Vanya Lozanova-Stancheva, D.Sc.: Maritime sacred spaces of Byzantium and the myth of its origin
- 12.45-13.00 Chief Asst. Prof. Adriana Sarbova, Ph.D. (Institute of Balkan Studies & Centre of Thracology – BAS): Architectural aspects of the solar cult in the Thracian tumular buildings
- 13.00-13.15 Angel Vassilev, Ph.D. candidate (Sofia University): Polyfunctionality of the Old Testament genealogical tables
- 13.15-13.30 Zhorzhetta Ilieva, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Caesaropapism during the rule of the Macedonian dynasty
- 13.30-13.45 Prof. Mirosław A. Michalski, Ph.D. (Christian Theological Academy, Warsaw): Maria Franciszka – Feliksa Magdalena Kozłowska – saint and cursed
- 13.45-14.00 Jovan Jonovski, Ph.D. (Macedonian Heraldic Society, Skopje): Overview of registered religious communities in the Republic of Macedonia
- 14.00-14.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Polina Spirova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Intern practice for theology students. New opportunities
- 14.15-14.30 Nikolinka Klimukova, Ph.D. (National Vocational High School of Photography and Polygraph, Sofia): Competitions for drawing on religious themes - an intersection of education in fine art and religion
- 14.30-14.45 Deana Atanasova, Ph.D. candidate (Sofia University): Contemporary education in religion in an attempt to overcome ethnic and racial stigma in schools with a multi-ethnic environment
- 14.45-15.00 Discussion

12,30-15,00

**Panel 2. Religious diversity - room 9, ground floor**

**Moderator: Prof. Georgeta Nazarska, Ph.D.**

[meet.google.com/fqn-fogz-qgh](https://meet.google.com/fqn-fogz-qgh)

- 12.30-12.45 Chief Asst. Prof. Mirosław Bachev, Ph.D. (Institute for Philosophy and Sociology – BAS): One or many: religions as spiritual wealth
- 12.45-13.00 Kalina Peycheva, Ph.D. candidate (ULSIT): Some traditional and modern forms of strengthening interreligious dialogue
- 13.00-13.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Tsvetelin Angelov, Ph.D. (Institute for Philosophy and Sociology – BAS): The ethical and theological dimensions of Kant's practical philosophy
- 13.15-13.30 Prof. Yuriy N. Oleinik, Ph.D. (Moscow Humanitarian University): Russian religious-philosophical thought in Psychology from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century
- 13.30-13.45 Chief Asst. Prof. Maria Ivanova, Ph.D. (Institute for Population and Human Studies – BAS): Religious coping and perceived stress
- 13.45-14.00 Chief Asst. Prof. Sevdalina Nikolova, Ph.D. (Institute for Philosophy and Sociology – BAS): Zen Buddhism and mystical theology

- 14.00-14.15 Lyudmila Kirilova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Faith and identity: a comparison between the path of faith and the path of religious affiliation
- 14.15-14.30 Angelina Vladikova ('Bridges' Association): 'Ecology of the soul' best practice, or interreligious dialogue in action
- 14.30-14.45 Alexandra Fol, Dr., CTh (Art Studies Institute – BAS, Église unie St. James, Montreal): Interfaith ministry and the United Church of Canada
- 14.45-15.00 Discussion

**12,30-15.00** **Panel 3. Cultural diversity – room 209, floor 2**  
**Moderator: Prof. Magdalena Garvanova, Ph.D.**

[meet.google.com/jce-xdmq-biw](https://meet.google.com/jce-xdmq-biw)

- 12.30-12.45 Assoc. Prof. Parush Parushev, Ph.D. ('St. Trivellii' Higher School of Theology, Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Michael Walzer's concept of justice and his minimalist set of human rights
- 12.45-13.00 Assoc. Prof. Kostadin Nushev, Ph.D. (Sofia University; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Christian moral principles for human dignity and basic human rights (theological, anthropological, ethical and legal aspects)
- 13.00-13.15 Prof. Magdalena Garvanova, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Bioethical attitudes in modern Bulgarian society
- 13.15-13.30 Prof. Yordanka Zaharieva, D.Sc. (ULSIT), Rafie Demirova, Ph.D. (Trakya University, Edirne): Voluntary farewell to the 'pen'
- 13.30-13.45 Prof. Lela Tavdgiridze, Assoc. Prof. Nana Mazmishvili, Ph.D., Asst. Prof. Dali Dobordginidze ('Shota Rustaveli' State University, Batumi): How gender equality is addressed in secondary and higher education system in post-soviet countries (On the example of educational institutions in Georgia)
- 13.45-14.00 Assoc. Prof. Maria Dishkova, Ph.D. ('Prof. Dr. Asen Zlatarov' University, Bourgas): Concept of age discrimination
- 14.00-14.15 Volodya Zlatev, Ph.D.: Legal protection of victims of trafficking. Procedures and topical issues internationally and domestically
- 14.15-14.30 Georgi Milkov, Ph.D. ('Center for Constructive Justice' Association, Razgrad): Local partnership mechanism for protection from domestic violence in Bulgaria
- 14.30-14.45 Assoc. Prof. Evgenia Ivanova, Ph.D. (Regional Museum of History - Stara Zagora), Veltcho Krastev, Ph.D. (Stara Zagora): Upbringing and education of Roma children in Bulgaria – traditions, stereotypes, integration
- 14.45-15.00 Discussion

**12,30-15.00** **Panel 4 Cultural diversity – room 210, floor 2**  
**Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Nina Debruyne, Ph.D.**

[meet.google.com/mye-bpmf-yxf](https://meet.google.com/mye-bpmf-yxf)

- 12.30-12.45 Assoc. Prof. Tamila Davitadze, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. Nana Mazmishvili, Ph.D. ('Shota Rustaveli' State University, Batumi): Ethnomusicology in modern poetry? (Based on Georgian, French, and English poetry)

- 12:45-13:00 Assoc. Prof. Krasimira Drumeva, Ph.D. (Veliko Tarnovo University): Expression in color. Marietta Konova – works created in Paris
- 13.00-13.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Hristo Tutunarov, Ph.D., Maya Mahmud (ULSIT): Examples of Sufism in the Ottoman Archives of Bulgaria
- 13.15-13.30 Angelina Petrova, Ph.D. candidate (ULSIT): Valuable unpublished course on Slavic epigraphy and paleography by Prof. Archpriest Ivan Goshev
- 13.30-13.45 Yuliy Yordanov: The ‘Levski’ novel – the rise of Yana Yazova and the downfall of her executors
- 13.45-14.00 Assoc. Prof. Nina Debryune, Ph.D., Chief Asst. Prof. Tina Petrova, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Aleko Konstantinov in cultural memory today: harmony in differences
- 14.00-14.15 Prof. Ventsislav Velev, Ph.D. (ULSIT): The establishment of the Union of People's Community Centers – an example of unity in diversity
- 14.15-14.30 Asst. Prof. Maia Bregadze, Ph.D. (Caucasus International University, Georgia): Opportunities and media challenges for developing small towns as tourism locations (On the example of Tkibuli Municipality in the Imereti Region, Republic of Georgia)
- 14.30-14.45 Valia Simeonova, Ph.D. (Ministry of Defense): Intercultural communication and intercultural competence. Contemporary theoretical views
- 14.45-15.00 Discussion

**15,00-15,15**  
**15,15-17,30**

*Coffee break*  
*Panel sessions*

**15,15-17,30**

**Panel 5. Religious diversity - room 309, floor 3**  
**Moderator: Chief Asst. Prof. Svetla Shapkalova, Ph.D.**  
[meet.google.com/ssi-fztj-abv](https://meet.google.com/ssi-fztj-abv)

- 15.15-15.30 Assoc. Prof. Mariyana Nyagolova, Ph.D. (Veliko Tarnovo University) The influence of Hellenistic and Islamic culture on the psychological views of Arabic-speaking scholars from the Middle Ages
- 15.30-15.45 Nikolai Neshev, Ph.D. (Sofia University; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Religious and Scientific Infinity
- 15.45-16.00 Ivaylo Vasilev, Ph.D. candidate (Sofia University): The dangers of technology and artificial intelligence to the spiritual life of the Orthodox Christian
- 16.00-16.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Hristo Tutunarov, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Radicalization and social media
- 16.15-16.30 Liana Galabova: Harmony of automation needs in socio-cultural solutions
- 16.30-17.45 Rashid Sukhov (Institute of Seismology, Uzbekistan): Unity in diversity: explain this to artificial intelligence
- 16.45-17.00 Evgeni Velkov (ULSIT): Love thought as interdisciplinary
- 17.00-17.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Svetla Shapkalova, Ph.D. (ULSIT): New Testament love – a harmonious value in different dimensions
- 17.15-17.30 Discussion

15,15-17,30

**Panel 6. Ethnic diversity - room 9, ground floor**

**Moderator: Prof. Georgeta Nazarska, Ph.D.**

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- 15.15-15.30 Prof. Todor Mishev, Ph.D. (Sofia University): The image of other ethnicities and religions in Bulgarian textbooks (1879-1944)
- 15.30-15.45 Chief Asst. Prof. Hristina Gergova, Ph.D. (Veliko Tarnovo University, Pedagogical College, Pleven): Specificity of reading Bulgarian as a second language for Roma students (difficulties and perspectives for future pedagogical specialists)
- 15.45-16.00 Ibrahim Karahasan-Çınar, Ph.D.: The Bulgarian colony in Constantinople
- 16.00-16.15 Prof. Georgeta Nazarska, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Ukrainian Jewish women in Bulgaria (late 19th-mid 20th century): transnational transfers and identities
- 16.15-16.30 Jacqueline Bodurova (Union of Bulgarian Scientists, Varna branch; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): The impact of the changes during the Perestroika on the immigrants who arrived from Armenia in Bulgaria in the 1990s, and their adaptation among the Bulgarian society
- 16.30-16.45 Vladislava Spasova Ilieva, Ph.D. (Institute of Ethnology and Folklore Studies with Ethnographic Museum – BAS): The students at the Sofia Seminary of Theology from the Bessarabia who studied in Bulgaria – transmitters of spirituality, faith, language and traditions beyond its borders, or awakeners of their native land?
- 16.45-17.15 Discussion

15,15-17,30

**Panel 7. Cultural diversity – room 209, floor 2**

**Moderator: Prof. Magdalena Garvanova, Ph.D.**

[meet.google.com/qrq-xuen-nwj](https://meet.google.com/qrq-xuen-nwj)

- 15.15-15.30 Prof. Neli Boyadzhieva, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Problems of training in counseling and counseling in the preparation of social pedagogues at the university
- 15.30-15.45 Assoc. Prof. Evgenia Topolska, Ph.D. (New Bulgarian University): Aspects of the concept of inclusive education
- 15.45-16.00 Chief Asst. Prof. Daniel Polikhronov, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Preventive pedagogical aspects of the social adaptation of children in a multicultural preschool environment
- 16.00-16.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Daniela Racheva, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Possibilities of children's and youth's informal artistic creative activities for social inclusion
- 16.15-16.30 Assoc. Prof. Rositsa Penkova, Ph.D. (Veliko Tarnovo University): The study of folk tales in the initial stage - a means of cultivating interest in the culture of other peoples
- 16.30-16.45 Assoc. Prof. Tatyana I. Zharkova, Ph.D. (Financial University, Chelyabinsk branch), Anna F. Latish (Chelyabinsk): Tolerance as a basis for successful implementation of the dialogue of cultures

16.45-17.00 Iliana Dimova, Ph.D. ('Svetulka' Kindergarten #7, Stara Zagora): Possibilities for presenting intercultural education in preschool age  
17.00-17.30 Discussion

**15,15-17,30** **Panel 8. National diversity – room 210, floor 2**  
**Moderator: Assoc. Prof. Nina Debruyne, Ph.D.**

[meet.google.com/gcs-hadm-rfk](https://meet.google.com/gcs-hadm-rfk)

15.15-15.30 Research associate Mitko Arnaudov, Ph.D. (Center for Neighboring and Mediterranean States, Belgrade): The role of cultural diplomacy in the relations between North Macedonia and Bulgaria  
15.30-15.45 Asst. Prof. Nihal Yuzergan, Ph.D. candidate (Sofia University): In search of the 'borders of the heart' – the civilizational progress and the idea of the cultural identity of the 'New Turkey'  
15.45-16.00 Sevda Nakova, Ph.D. (Ministry of Defense): Harmony in the differences related to the communication of the countries of the Balkan Peninsula  
16.00-16.15 Angelina Peneva: An unextinguished, smoldering ember  
16.15-16.30 Discussion