



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

12th *Harmony in Diversity* Conference

**10th December – the International Human Rights Day
December 10th, 2025
ULSIT, campus 2,
69A, Shiptchenski prohod Blvd., Sofia**

**P R O G R A M M E
(GMT+2)**

9.00-9.30 *Registration – foyer, ground floor*

9.30-10.00 *Opening panel – room 309, floor 3
Exhibition launch*

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10.00-10.30 Prof. Elisabeth Naurath, Ph.D. (University of Augsburg; “*Religions for Peace*” – Europe): Compassion as an Education Principle for Religious Peace Building

10.45-12.45 *Panel sessions*

10.45-12.45 **Panel 1. *Religious diversity* - room 309, floor 3
Moderator Chief Asst. Prof. Svetla Shapkalova, Ph.D.**

meet.google.com/edt-sgkv-jtt

10.45-11.00 Assoc. Prof. Kostadin Nushev Ph.D. (Sofia University; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Christian Religious-Philosophical and Ethical Problems in the Old Bulgarian Apocryphal Literature

10.15-10.30 Nikolinka Klimukova, Ph.D. (National Vocational High School for Photography and Polygraphs, Sofia): Understanding of the God-Logos in Scientific Literature

10.30-10.45 Yuri Iliev, Ph.D. candidate (Sofia University): The Holy Eucharist and the Christian Believer

10.45-11.00 Zhorzheta Ilieva, Ph.D. (Sofia University): An essay on the historical overview of the Maronite Church - doctrine, governance, and Geopolitics

11.00-11.15 Vesselina Georgieva, Ph.D. (Central Library - BAS): Development of Byzantine Musical Notation and the Role of the New Method of 1814 in Bulgarian Church Music

11.15-11.30 Liana Galabova: Memorial Culture and Religious Community

11.30-11.45 Blagovest Petrov, Ph.D. candidate (ULSIT): Demographic Influences on Religious Practices in the Kyustendilsko Kraishite Region

11.45-12.00 *Discussion*

10.45-12.45 **Panel 2. Religious diversity - room 9, ground floor**
Moderator Prof. Georgeta Nazarska, Ph.D.

meet.google.com/qrr-otce-xoi

- 10.45-11.00 Marcel Israel, Ph.D. (“Religions for Peace” – Europe; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): A Different Research Perspective about the Documents Discovered in the Ben-Ezra Synagogue’s Repository (Genizah) in Cairo
- 11.00-11.15 David Hosaflook, Ph.D. (Institute for Albanian and Protestant Studies, Tirana): The life of Katerina Stefanova-Tsilka in Sofia
- 11.15-11.30 Asst. Prof. Anna Kurkiewicz, D.Sc. (University of Security, Poznań), Prof. Mirosław A. Michalski, Ph.D. (Christian Theological Academy, Warsaw): The Other in the Perspective of Interreligious Dialogue
- 11.30-11.45 Julia Harbaruk (Christian Theological Academy, Warsaw): Truth and Lies – the Eighth Commandment in the Catechisms
- 11.45-12.00 Damian Heratym, Ph.D. candidate (Christian Theological Academy, Warsaw): Bishop J. Padewski Martyr of Religious Rights during Period of Peoples’s Republic of Poland
- 12.00-12.15 Peter Atanasov, Ph.D. (Plovdiv University): The “Cristera” War (La Guerra Cristera)
- 12.15-12.30 Prof. Georgeta Nazarska, Ph.D. (ULSIT): The “Redeemed Church of Christ” Christian Spiritual Society in Bulgaria (1950s – 1990s)
- 12.30-12.45 Assoc. Prof. Hristo Tutunarov, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Religious and Political History of Zaydism

10.45-12.45 **Panel 3. Cultural diversity – room 2009, floor 2**
Moderator Prof. Magdalena Garvanova, Ph.D.

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- 10.45-11.00 Prof. Siyka Chavdarova – Kostova, D.Sc. (Sofia University): Current Trends In Implementing the Process of Social Inclusion of Refugees and Migrants in the Host Countries
- 11.00-11.15 Georgi Milkov, Ph.D. (“Center for Creative Justice” Association, Razgrad): Assessment of the Application of the Domestic Violence Protection Act in the Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic Of Bulgaria
- 11.15-11.30 Assoc. Prof. Svetlana Angelova, Ph.D. (New Bulgarian University): The Rights of the Child in “Social Studies” Training in Elementary Stage
- 11.30-11.45 Chief Asst. Prof. Maria Ivanova, Ph.D. (Institute for Population and Human Studies – BAS): Influence of Religious Cognitive Reappraisal in the Process of Coping on Personal Growth: A Regression Approach
- 11.45-12.00 Kamelia Slavcheva, Ph.D. (“St. Trivelius” Higher Theological School, “Logos” Christian Counseling Center): Logotherapy – Psychotherapy of Dignity Directed toward the Other, Suitable for Suffering People
- 12.00-12.15 Assoc. Prof. Maria Dishkova, D.Sc. (“Prof. Dr. A. Zlatarov” University, Bourgas), Darina Georgieva (Bulgarian Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology): The Therapeutic Approach of Aida Markovska – Bulgarian Ancestral Therapy – Characteristics, Application, And Results
- 12.15-12.30 Nikolay Neshev, Ph.D. (Sofia University; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Impact of Digital Technologies on Human Development
- 12.30-12.45 Chief Assist. Prof. Evelina Zdravkova, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Faith And Reason In The Digital World: Orthodoxness, Artificial Intelligence, and Identity Formation

10.45-12.45 **Panel 4. Ethnic and cultural diversity – room 210, floor 2**
Moderator Chief Asst. Prof. Tina Petrova, Ph.D.

meet.google.com/aix-pved-xfx

- 10.45-11.00 Prof. Yosif Nunev, D.Sc. (“St. St. Cyril and Methodius” Veliko Tarnovo University, Pedagogical College – Pleven): Why is the Roma Issue Gradually Falling off the Agenda of the EU and the Republic of Bulgaria?
- 11.00-11.15 Emilia Boyanova (St. St. Cyril and Methodius National Library): Music as a Bridge – Interaction between the Roma and Bulgarian Musical Traditions
- 11.15-11.30 Assoc. Prof. Evgenia Ivanova, Ph.D. (Regional Museum of History – Stara Zagora), Velcho Krastev, Ph.D.: Harmony and Differences in the Daily Work Life of Traditional Commercial Fishing in Two Villages on the Northern Black Sea Coast
- 11.30-11.45 Prof. Ventzislav Velev, Ph.D. (ULSIT): The Image of the “Other” in the Folk Psychology of Northwestern Bulgaria: Cultural Representations, Social Functions, and Transformations
- 11.45-12.00 Assoc. Prof. Alexandra Ivanova, Ph.D. (“Lyuben Karavelov” Higher School of Civil Engineering, Sofia), Assist. Prof. Russana Gadzhanova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Artistic Practices as a Dialogue between Different Communities
- 12.00-12.15 Assoc. Prof. Olesya V. Grishanina-Moshkina, Ph.D. (Chelyabinsk State Institute of Culture and Arts): Court Games as a Condition for Forming Ethno cultural Self-Identification
- 12.15-12.30 Assoc. Prof. Tatyana I. Zharkova, Ph.D. (University of Finance, Chelyabinsk Branch): Culture Shock in Mastering a Foreign Language Culture
- 12.30-12.45 Nihal Yuzergan, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Connotations of the Leadership Civilizational Discourse of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan: “The World is Bigger than 5”

12.45-13.30 *Lunch break*
Exhibition launch

13.30-15.45 *Panel sessions*
13.30-15.45 **Panel 5. Religious diversity - room 309, floor 3**
Moderator Chief Asst. Prof. Svetla Shapkalova, Ph.D.

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- 13.30-13.45 Prof. Stoyan Denchev, Ph.D. (ULSIT), Prof. Alexandra Kumanova, D.Sc. (ULSIT), Assoc. Prof. Nikola Kazanski (Central Library - BAS), Nikolay Vasilev, Ph.D. (ULSIT): First Scientific Complex of Field and Historiographic Trips in Bulgaria and Abroad (Iran, Turkey, Italy, Russia, Finland – Vottovaara, and Kazakhstan – Arkaim) for Researching the Zoroastrian Source of the Abrahamic Religions (2007–2025)
- 13.45-14.00 Arif K. Abdullah, Ph.D. (Higher Islamic Institute, Sofia; New Bulgarian University; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Religious Pluralism Reconsidered: Conceptual Frameworks and Contemporary Challenges
- 14.00-14.15 Kalina Peycheva Ph.D. (ULSIT), Prof. Kiril Bozhkov (National Academy of Art), Assoc. Prof. Parush Parushev, Ph.D. (“St. Trivellius” Higher Theological School, Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): Convictions and Art in the Interfaith Dialogue

- 14.15-14.30 Angelina Vladikova (BRIDGES – Eastern European Forum for Dialogue): “*The Gift of Love*” - an Example of Interreligious Dialogue and Harmony in the Context of “*BRIDGES*” Activities
- 14.30-14.45 Kalina Peycheva, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Solidarity, Hospitality, and Mutual Aid as Virtues of Character
- 14.45-15.00 Chief Asst. Prof. Polina Spirova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Virtues and Religious Education
- 15.00-15.15 Ana Gospodinova, Dafina Yovcheva (“Bible League” Foundation): Model of Teaching Aids for the Primary Course in the Subject of Religion – Non-Denominational Teaching
- 15.15-15.30 Chief Asst. Prof. Svetla Shapkalova, Ph.D. (ULSIT; Bulgarian Forum for Inter-religious Dialogue and Cooperation): The Harmonious Truth in the Various Teachings of Jesus Christ and Peter Deunov
- 15.30-15.45 *Discussion*

13.30-15.45 Panel 6. Religious diversity - room 9, ground floor
Moderator Prof. Georgeta Nazarska, Ph.D.

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- 13.30-13.45 Prof. Valeria Fol, D.Sc. (ULSIT), Radnyu Shopov, Guncho Praskov, Stanka Mateva (Tourist Information Centre – Brezovo): A New Megalith in Sarnena Sredna Gora Mountain. “*Omne Vivum Ex Ovo*”
- 13.45-14.00 Prof. Vanya Lozanova-Stancheva, D.Sc. (Sofia University): The Mystery of the Solar Dragon: towards the Interpretation of an Orphic Bowl
- 14.00-14.15 Asst. Prof. Adriana Sarbova, Ph.D. (Institute of Balkan Studies and Centre of Thracology - BAS): The “Two-Gates“ Model in the Thracian Cult Architecture
- 14.15-14.30 Assoc. Prof. Tsvetelin Angelov, Ph.D. (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology – BAS): The Relevance of Metaphysics in the Context of Contemporary Times (1)
- 14.30-14.45 Assoc. Prof. Miroslav Bachev, Ph.D. (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology – BAS): Phenomenology of Religious Consciousness in Georg Hegel
- 14.45-15.00 Asst. Prof. Deyan Penchev, Ph.D. (Institute of Philosophy and Sociology – BAS): Apotheosis of Unity: The Metaphysical Philosophy of Rabindranath Tagore
- 15.00-15.15 Assoc. Prof. Hristo Tutunarov, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Religious and Political History of Zaydism
- 15.15-15.30 Assoc. Prof. Elena Mustakova, Ph.D. (“*IntegraLight*” Transdisciplinary Institute for Consciousness, Society, and Wellbeing): Beyond Culture Wars: Creating Cultures That Heal Divides and Harmonize
- 15.30-15.45 *Discussion*

13.30-15.30 Panel 7. Cultural diversity – room 209, floor 1
Moderator Prof. Magdalena Garvanova, Ph.D.

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- 13.30-13.45 Milica Krivokapić, Ph.D. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Serbia), Asst. Prof. Mitko Arnaudov, Ph.D. (Institute of International Politics and Economics, Serbia), Nikola Hadžić (University of Belgrade): The Role of the Library in Modern Educational Methods: Determinants, Variables, and Perspectives
- 13.45-14.00 Chief Asst. Prof. Ekaterina Tomova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Promoting Inclusive Education: University Students’ Perspectives on Visibility and Engagement
- 14.00-14.15 Assoc. Prof. Evgenia Topolska, Ph.D. (New Bulgarian University): Personalized Learning in Support of Inclusive Education

- 14.15-14.30 Assoc. Prof. Sergey S. Sokovikov, Ph.D. (Chelyabinsk State Institute of Culture and Arts): Social and Artistic Specifics of Inclusion of People with Disabilities in Theatrical Creativity
- 14.30-14.45 Prof. Nely Boyadjieva, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Emotional Intelligence, Empathy and Personality Profile of Supporting Specialists at the University and Professional Work
- 14.45-15.00 Assoc. Prof. Donka Petrova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Intercultural Competence and Its Role in the Helping Professions
- 15.00-15.15 Chief Asst. Prof. Berjuhi Yordanova, Ph.D. (Sofia University): Ecological Culture – Value of Modern Society
- 15.15-15.30 *Discussion*

13.30-15.30 Panel 8. Cultural diversity – room 210, floor 2
Moderator Chief Asst. Prof. Tina Petrova, Ph.D.

meet.google.com/xqg-agkh-ejt

- 13.30-13.45 Volodya Zlatev, Ph.D.: Updating the International Legal Framework to Environmental Threats in the Context of Climate Change for the Protection of Cultural Heritage
- 13.45-14.00 Chief Asst. Prof. Tina Petrova, Ph.D. (ULSIT): Archival Documents for the “Holy Transfiguration of the Lord” Monastery – Village of Skravena Stored in the State Archives – Sofia
- 14.00-14.15 Veronika A. Kempinskaya, Assoc. Prof. Inna V. Stepanova, Ph.D. (Chelyabinsk State Institute of Culture and Arts): Character Code in the Context of Celebration: Problems of Terminology and Methodology of Analysis
- 14.15-14.30 Assoc. Prof. Inna V. Stepanova, Ph.D. (Chelyabinsk State Institute of Culture and Arts): Jubilee as a Form of Cultural Heritage Preservation on the Example of the Ural Region
- 14.30-14.45 Evgeni Velkov (ULSIT; Philosophical-Theological University of Sankt Georgen): Die Opposition von Theismus und Atheismus als Harmonie der Gegensätze im Roman „*Der Meister und Margarita*“ – Schwerpunkt auf dem ersten Kapitel
- 14.45-15.00 Alexandra Fol, Ph.D., CTh (Centre de musique canadienne, Montréal), Francis „Pancho“ Cloutier (Studio Tango, Montreal): Le tango Argentin comme vecteur culturel une entrevue avec Francis „Pancho“ Cloutier
- 15.00-15.15 Venelin Mihaylov, Ph.D. candidate (ULSIT): Economic Policy of Andrey Lukanov
- 15.15-15.30 *Discussion*