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## ORGANISATION

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Dr. Fernanda Fischione  
SARAS Department  
Sapienza University of Rome  
[fernanda.fischione@uniroma1.it](mailto:fernanda.fischione@uniroma1.it)

Dr. Barbara Winckler  
Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies  
University of Münster  
[barbara.winckler@uni-muenster.de](mailto:barbara.winckler@uni-muenster.de)

**Plurality Contested** is an international workshop of the Cluster of Excellence “Religion and Politics” organised in collaboration with SARAS – Sapienza Università di Roma and the Institut für Arabistik und Islamwissenschaft, Universität Münster.

**TRANSECT** (<https://www.transect.eu/>), the project leading to this workshop, has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie grant agreement No 101027040.

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## LOCATION

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RS 2  
Schlaunstraße 2 (Hofgebäude),  
access via Rosenstraße 9  
48143 Münster

To attend the workshop remotely, please join us on Zoom via the following link: <https://www.zoom-x.de/j/64310839081> (all times are CET), or scan the QR code on the back of this flyer.

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## REGISTRATION

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To register and access the readings for the workshop, please send an email to one of the organisers. Registration is not mandatory but warmly recommended.

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## CLUSTER OF EXCELLENCE “RELIGION AND POLITICS”

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The Cluster of Excellence “**Religion and Politics. Dynamics of Tradition and Innovation**” has been investigating since 2007 the complex relationship between religion and politics across eras and cultures. In the funding phase from 2019 to 2025, the 140 researchers from 20 disciplines in the humanities and social sciences analyze in transepochal studies ranging from antiquity to the present day the factors that make religion the motor of political and social change. The research network is the largest of its kind in Germany; and, of the Clusters of Excellence, one of the oldest and the only one to deal with the issue of religion. It will receive funding of 31 million euros from 2019 to 2025.

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## CONTACT

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**Cluster of Excellence “Religion and Politics”**  
Johannisstraße 1, 48143 Münster

Tel. +49 251 83-23376  
[religionundpolitik@uni-muenster.de](mailto:religionundpolitik@uni-muenster.de)

Instagram: @religionundpolitik  
X (vormals Twitter): @religionpolitik

[www.religion-und-politik.de/en](http://www.religion-und-politik.de/en)



International Workshop of the Cluster of Excellence “Religion and Politics” in collaboration with the Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies and SARAS – Sapienza University of Rome

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# PLURALITY CONTESTED

## Moroccan Cultural and Intellectual Production as the New Political

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**1-2 December 2023 | Münster**

RS2 | Schlaunstraße 2, access via Rosenstraße 9



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**PLURALITY CONTESTED:  
MOROCCAN CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL  
PRODUCTION AS THE NEW POLITICAL**

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The workshop focuses on the idea of Morocco “as a horizon of thought”, as Abdelkébir Khatibi defined the Maghreb. A site of cultural entanglements, diversity and plurality, Morocco is gaining a privileged position in area studies. The workshop aims to gain insight into recent research focusing on the way the country’s linguistic, cultural and social diversity is both affirmed and contested in cultural and intellectual production.

Morocco has received relatively little scholarly attention, at least in English-language academic studies, especially with regards to its cultural production. Among the reasons for the underestimation of the Maghreb in general is the fact that it is a region that can hardly be framed within the usual disciplinary boxes, such as the largely Mashreq-centred Arabic or Islamic Studies. Multicultural and multilingual, historically located at the crossroads between the Mediterranean, sub-Saharan Africa and the Arab Levant (not to mention the Atlantic routes), the Maghreb is a place of complex knots and relationships, of threads and traces that intersect, questioning and provoking the observers, and forcing them to deconstruct their epistemological paradigms.

Representing various disciplinary approaches, international scholars at different career stages based in Morocco, Europe and the US will present their work during the workshop and discuss it with graduate and PhD students from the University of Münster.

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**PROGRAMME**

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**Friday, 1 December 2023**

13.00–13.30 |

**Welcome & Introduction**

Fernanda Fischione, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy  
& Barbara Winckler, University of Münster, Germany

13.30–15.00 |

**From Festivals and Sports to Arts and Crafts:  
The Power of Popular Culture in Morocco**

Amina Boubia, International University of Rabat,  
Morocco

15.00–15.30 | Coffee Break

15.30–17.00 |

**Rabat School of Thought:  
A Prelude to an Intellectual Edge**

Mohammed Hashas, Luiss University of Rome, Italy /  
Leibniz-ZMO, Berlin, Germany

17.00–18.00 | Break

18.00–19.30 | Public Panel Discussion

**Plurality Contested: Moroccan Cultural and  
Intellectual Production as the New Political**

Jamal Bahmad, Mohammed V University in Rabat  
Martina Biondi, University of Macerata / University of  
Utrecht

Amina Boubia, International University of Rabat  
Olivia C. Harrison, University of South California  
Mohammed Hashas, Luiss University of Rome /  
Leibniz-ZMO

Chair:

Fernanda Fischione, Sapienza University of Rome  
Barbara Winckler, University of Münster

**Saturday, 2 December 2023**

9.30–11.00 |

**Moroccan Feminist Papers and the Building of the  
Women’s Rights Movement (1983-2004)**

Martina Biondi, University of Macerata, Italy /  
University of Utrecht, Netherlands

11.00–11.30 | Coffee Break

11.30–13.00 |

**Transcolonial Maghreb: The Question of Palestine  
in Moroccan Literature and Thought**

Olivia C. Harrison, University of South California,  
USA

13.00–14.30 | Lunch Break

14.30–16.00 |

**Moroccan Cinema: Globalization, Society and the  
Politics of Representation**

Jamal Bahmad, Mohammed V University in Rabat,  
Morocco

16.00–16.30 | Coffee Break

16.30–17.30 | **Wrap Up / Final Discussion**

