

## Organisation

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Project EXC 2060 A3-6 of the Cluster of Excellence:  
„Religious Buildings Change Their Identity: Iberia  
711–1609“

## Location

Johannisstraße 4  
Room: JO 101  
48143 Münster

## Registration

Until 4 September 2023  
(fkleybol@uni-muenster.de)

## Cluster of Excellence “Religion and Politics”

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.

## Contact

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Conference of the Cluster of Excellence “Religion and Politics”

# Premodern Forms of Cultural Appropriation?

11–13 September 2023  
Johannisstraße 4 | Room: J101 | 48143 Münster



Inside of the former synagogue, Córdoba, Picture Credit: K. Kogman-Appel

## Premodern Forms of Cultural Appropriation

The concept of 'Cultural Appropriation' entered the debate on post-colonialism in the 1970s and is today an integral part in discussions about racism and ongoing forms of colonialism as well as the questions concerning the colonial past and reparations. Despite the relevance of the topic, it has been mostly covered by (social) media and less by scholarship. Moreover, it has even less been applied to pre-colonialist times and in fact there is a great deal of disagreement whether it is even applicable to and fruitful for these periods.

The conference aims to discuss instances that can potentially be defined as cultural appropriations anywhere in the premodern world. Moreover, the applicability of the concept as well as the concept's advantages and disadvantages in relation to other practices and approaches such as occupation, inclusion, (dis)entanglement, and transculturality shall be thematised.

## Programm

### Monday, 11 September 2023

09.30–10.00 | Welcoming and Introductory Words  
**Michael Seewald (Speaker of the Cluster) and Katrin Kogman-Appel, Wolfram Drews, and Franziska Kleybolte (Organizers of the Conference)**

#### **Panel 1: Design Vocabulary: Influence or Appropriation? (Moderation Friederike Schöpf)**

10.00–10.45 | Translating Visual Language: Jewish (and Christian) Religious Architecture in the Rhineland 1085–1185 **Neta Bodner (The Open University of Israel)**

10.45–11.15 | *Coffee Break*

11.15–12.00 | Late-Renaissance images of the ideal musician in Mughal imperial art (1600-1650 ca.): Some notes on the Torment of Marsyas by Theodor Galle in the Gulshan Album (Berlin State Library) **Francesco Gusella (University of Münster)**

12.00–12.45 | The Appropriation of Exotica as a Means of Fostering Authority. The Case of Early Mycenae **Felix Schäfer (University of Münster)**

12.45–14.15 | *Lunch Break*

#### **Panel 2: Appropriation Through Texts and Translations? (Moderation Jens Fischer)**

14.15–15.00 | The Reception of Texts of Jewish Origin in Christianity: A Case of Cultural Appropriation? **Florian Neitmann (University of Münster)**

15.00–15.45 | Instances of Cultural Appropriation in the Works of Paulus Alvarus of Córdoba **Wolfram Drews (University of Münster)**

15.45–16.15 | *Coffee Break*

#### **Panel 3: Religious Ideas and Veneration (Moderation Florian Neitmann)**

16.15–17.00 | Designing the Divine - Appropriation of Divinity in Ancient Nubia **Angelika Lohwasser (University of Münster)**

17.00–17.45 | The Indian Who Never Was. The Appropriation of St Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin for the Cult of the Virgin of Guadalupe in Mexico, 1600–1666 **Eduardo Angel Cruz (University of Teramo / KU Leuven)**

### Tuesday, 12 September 2023

#### **Panel 4: Shared and Confiscated Spaces (Moderation: Franziska Kleybolte)**

09.30–10.15 | Muslim Core under a Christian Mantle. Reuse, Transformation, and Deconstruction of Mosques on the Iberian Peninsula under Christian Rule **Tobias Arera-Rütenik (University of Bamberg)**

10.15–11.00 | Conquest and Cultural Appropriation: Christian and Muslim Perspectives in Constantinople (Istanbul) and Asia Minor (Anatolia) during Mehmed II's Reign **Vanessa R. de Obaldía (MAMEMS – University of Mainz)**

11.00–11.30 | *Coffee Break*

#### **Panel 5: Religious and Everyday Objects (Moderation Katrin Kogman-Appel)**

11.30–12.15 | Bells of Stone: Understanding the Ghurid Encounter to Hindu and Jain Soundscapes **Ali Asgar Alibhai (University of Texas at Dallas)**

12.15–13.00 | The Stones of Basel **Eva Frojmovic (University of Leeds)**

13.00–14.30 | *Lunch Break*

14.30–15.15 | "Candelabrum de templo salomonis in iherusalem." Seven-branched Candelabra in Churches as Phenomena of Cultural Appropriation? **Maria Streicher (University of Tübingen)**

15.15–16.00 | Jews' Heads with Jews' Hats — Christians Appropriating Signs of Jewishness? **Andreas Lehnertz (University of Trier)**

16.00–16.30 | *Coffee Break*

16.30–17.15 | "The Emir of the Catholics" – Alfonso VIII of Castile's Gold Maravedís: Imitation or Appropriation of Islamic Coinage? **Matthias Maser (University of Erlangen)**

### Wednesday, 13 September 2023

#### **Panel 5: Culture, Belonging, Identity (Moderation: Wolfram Drews)**

09.00–09.45 | Adaptation, Acculturation, and Appropriation. Differentiating Processes of Cultural (Dis)Entanglements in the Medieval Mediterranean **Theresa Jäckh (University of Tübingen / Durham University)**

09.45–10.30 | Between "Romanisation" and "Barbarisation." Cultural Borrowings between Romans and Barbarians during the Migration Period – Examples of Cultural Appropriation? **Christian Scholl (University of Münster)**

10.30–11.00 | *Coffee Break*

11.00–11.45 | Appropriating One's Own Past? Paganism and Christian Identities in Medieval Scandinavia **Roland Scheel (University of Münster)**

11.45–12.30 | Cultural Appropriation and Ethnic Stereotypes in Late Medieval England and Ireland **Marcel Bubert (University of Münster)**

12.30–13.00 | Concluding Discussion

*From ca. 13.00 onwards | Rounding Off Lunch*