

International Workshop

**NEW USES, OLD PLACES**

**The Transformations of Religious Buildings in Contemporary Europe**

Vienna Scientific Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences

September 27-30, 2023

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

|             | Wednesday 27    | Thursday 28  | Friday 29       | Saturday 30 |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 09:30-11:00 |                 | Panel 1      | Panel 4         | Field trip  |
| 11:00-11:30 |                 | Coffee break | Coffee break    | Field trip  |
| 11:30-13:00 |                 | Panel 2      | Panel 5         | Goodbye     |
| 13:00-14:30 |                 | Lunch Break  | Lunch Break     |             |
| 14:30-16:00 |                 | Panel 3      | Keynote Lecture |             |
| 16:00-16:30 | Opening Remarks |              | Coffee break    |             |
| 16:30-18:00 | Keynote Lecture |              | Closing Panel   |             |
| 20:00 -     | Workshop Dinner | Free Evening | Workshop Dinner |             |

All panels and keynotes throughout the workshop will take place at the Vienna Scientific Centre of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Boerhaavegasse 25, Wien

**Wednesday 27, 16:00-16:30****Welcome and Opening Remarks****Agnieszka Halemba, Carlo Nardella, Barbora Spalová (Workshop Organizers)****Wednesday 27, 16:30-18:00****Keynote Lecture****Chair: Barbora Spalová (Charles University in Prague)**

- Isabelle Jonveaux (Pastoral Sociological Institute for West Switzerland): *Monasteries between past and future: A new life for post-community monastic buildings?*

**Thursday 28, 9:30-11:00****Panel 1 – Re-Imagining Religious Spaces and Infrastructures****Chair: Agnieszka Halemba (Polish Academy of Sciences)**

- Marian Burchardt (Universität Leipzig): *Designing interreligious encounters: Space, materiality, and media in Berlin's House of One*
- Ferdinand De Jong (New Europe College): *Affordances of Absence: Monastic Infrastructure in Bury St Edmunds, England*
- Piotr Winiarczyk (University of Warsaw): *After the demolition: The return of religion to the sites of torn down churches*

**Thursday 28, 11:30-13:00****Panel 2 – Heritage, Transformation and Conflict****Chair: Carlo Nardella (Università degli Studi di Milano)**

- Maurizio Ambrosini and Samuele Davide Molli (Università degli Studi di Milano): *Change and Conflict: Immigrants' religions and practices of re-sacralisation in Italy*
- Barbora Spalová (Charles University in Prague): *'These places don't get the right people': Conflicts about the understanding of loci sacri in former Sudetenland*
- Giulia Massenz (Politecnico di Torino): *African Pentecostal churches in Turin: Dynamic pathways between religious and secular buildings*

**Thursday 28, 14:30-16:00****Panel 3 – Religious Communities between Presence and Absence****Chair: Barbora Spalová (Charles University in Prague)**

- Christophe Monnot (Université de Strasbourg): *The role of the building in the continuation, merger, or extinction of religious activities of local congregations in Switzerland*
- Agnieszka Halemba (Polish Academy of Sciences): *Who cares? Negotiations over old church buildings in Brandenburg, Germany*
- Giuseppe Tateo (Universität Leipzig): *National hagiopolitics in Romania and Russia: Architectural and iconographic aspects*

**Friday 29, 9:30-11:00**

**Panel 4 – Religion versus Market**

**Chair: Agnieszka Halemba (Polish Academy of Sciences)**

- Carlo Nardella (Università degli Studi di Milano): *'Your ad here': Large-scale advertising billboards on Italian churches*
- Giovanna Rech (Università di Verona): *Coping with tourists, needing tourism. A Catholic Italian shrine after Covid-19*
- Martin Nosál (Catholic University in Ružomberok) and Filip Taufer (Charles University in Prague): *Reclaiming the traditional culture within the church space in Hladovka and Suchá Hora*

**Friday 29, 11:30-13:00**

**Panel 5 – Past and Future of Religious Places**

**Chair: Carlo Nardella (Università degli Studi di Milano)**

- Maria Chiara Giorda (Università degli Studi di Roma Tre): *A geo-history of shared religious places: The urban space of Rome*
- Alexandros Sakellariou (Hellenic Open University): *Ottoman mosques in Greek society: The (re-) construction of memory and the formation of ethno-religious identity*
- Angelica Federici (Bruno Kessler Foundation) and Silvia Omenetto (Università di Roma La Sapienza): *San Cosimato in Rome between digital humanities and historical cartography*

**Friday 29, 14:30-16:00**

**Keynote Lecture**

**Chair: Carlo Nardella (Università degli Studi di Milano)**

- Yuri Kazepov (Universität Wien): *Vienna: Is it a just city?*

**Friday 29, 16:30-18:00**

**Closing Panel – Open Roundtable**

**Moderators: Agnieszka Halemba, Carlo Nardella, Barbora Spalová (Workshop Organizers)**

- *General conversation on emerging topics, challenges and potential research opportunities*

**Saturday 30, 9:00-11:00**

**Field Trip – Vienna's Religious Buildings Guided Tour**

**SISR / ISSR**

Société Internationale de Sociologie des Religions  
International Society for the Sociology of Religion



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[click here to join the meeting on Zoom](#)

(passcode: 95241353)

New Uses, Old Places is an international workshop that aims to discuss and advance the understanding of a broad range of topics concerning the change, reuse and adaptation of religious buildings in contemporary Europe from social science perspectives.

The workshop is sponsored by the International Society for the Sociology of Religion in collaboration with the Polish Academy of Sciences at Vienna and Warsaw, the Department of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Milan and the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University in Prague.

Developed out of a collaboration of three social scientists who in 2020 began sharing their interests in exploring the social role and impact of the material and symbolic re-adaptation of historical religious buildings, the workshop is the winner of the 2022 ISSR International Workshop Grant awarded to innovative workshop proposals in the sociology of religion.

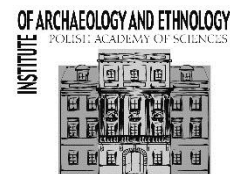
**Agnieszka Halemba** (social anthropologist) is professor in the Institute of Archaeology and Ethnology at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Poland. She also teaches at the University of Potsdam, Germany.

**Carlo Nardella** (sociologist) is tenured assistant professor of Sociology in the Department of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Milan, Italy.

**Barbora Spalová** (social anthropologist) is researcher and teacher at the Faculty of Social Sciences at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic.



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