PLUREL CONFERENCES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS HELD BY PLUREL:

- **The notion of religion as applied in education and research** (organized by PluRel’s staff, in English/Norwegian, Oslo 7.-9.01.13)
- **Occupy Earth! Ritual Gestures to Save the World** (organized by the research initiative with the same title, in English, Oslo 23.-25.03.12)
- **Religion, populism and extremism** (one day conference, in Norwegian, 18.01.2012)
- **Religious Pluralization as cultural condition for social cohesion and social conflict in a post-secular age** (organized by the research initiative PROSPECT, in English, Jerusalem19.-20.02.12)
- **Religious Pluralization and Secularity** (organized by the research initiative PROSPECT, in English, Oslo 23.-24.2011)
- **Complexity and Legitimacy: Religion, Secularity, and Values in the Polis** (organized centrally, in English, Oslo 18.-20.11.201)
- **Human Rights and Religion in the Context of West-Nordic Traditions** (organized by the research group Human Rights and Religion, in Scandinavian languages, Oslo 20.-21.05. 2010)
- **Religion, Value Systems and Citizenship in Late Modern Europe** (organized centrally, in English, Oslo 03.-04.06.2010)
- **The Formative Past and the Formation of the Future** (organized centrally, in English, Oslo 16.-18.09.2009)
SELECTED CONFERENCES HELD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHERS:

- **Holy Travel and Holy Place** (one day conference, in Norwegian, Oslo 24.09.12 – in cooperation with a research group based at IKOS)
- **Sacralization of space** (one day conference, in Norwegian, Oslo 29.11.10 - in cooperation with a research group based at IKOS) Medialization, Religion and Transformations of the Nordic Public Sphere (in cooperation with NOREL, Sigtuna/Sweden 26.-28.05.10)
- **Religious Beliefs and Practices in Denmark-Norway** (in Norwegian/Danish, Oslo 17.-18.06.2010 – in cooperation with an IKOS-based research initiative)
- **Cultural Histories of Meditation** (in English, Oslo 12.-16.05.2010 – in cooperation with an IKOS-based research initiative)
- **Religion in Africa and Norway** (in English, Oslo 25.-27.05.2012 – in cooperation with the research project “Broken Bodies, Healing Traditions”.
- **Exploring Experiences of Immanent Transcendence. Perspectives from Religion, Aesthetics and Biosemiotic** (in English, Oslo 03.-04.06,2010 – in cooperation with ILOS; a precursor to PluRel’s research group Aesthetics, Theology and the Natural Science)
- **Values, Integration, and State Intervention** (in Norwegian, Oslo, 07.-08.09.2009 – in cooperation with the research program Culcom)
- **Workshop on Festivals**, Oslo 22.-25.10.2009 (organized by PluRel’s previous research group Perspectives on Festivity).

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IKOS = Department of Culture Studies and Oriental Languages, Faculty of Humanities (the base of Religious Studies at UiO).
PLUREL SEMINARS

Typical format: two hours, with prepared presentations and responses, plus discussion. The seminars are normally related either to the activities of the research groups of PluRel’s phd-/postdoc-group,

2012 (January-September):

In total, 24 seminars and guest lectures from January to September (21 in English)

Thirteen seminars organized by the research group Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum:

- See details, Spring 2012

Three seminars organized by the research group Tibetan and Himalayan Studies:

- See details, Spring 2012

Two seminars/guest lectures organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Guest lecture by Tim Winter: Realism and the Real: paradoxes of Islamic pluralist soteriology
- Seminar on Politiske holdninger hos norske muslimske ledere («Political attitudes among Norwegian Muslim leaders»)

One seminar organized by the research group Aesthetics, Theology and the Natural Science:

- Seminar on Sammenhenger. Estetikk, teologi og naturvitenskap? («Connections. Aesthetics, Theology and Natural Science»)

Five other seminars/guest lectures:

- Seminar on Spansk gullalder, historiens relevans og religiøst mangfold («Spanish golden age, the relevance of history and religious plurality», in connection with book published by a PluRel-researcher)
- Seminar on Fundamentalism: prophecy and protest (in connection with book published by a PluRel-researcher)
- Guest lecture by José Casanova: Multiple Secularities: Comparative Reflections on the Nordic Protestant and the Southern Catholic Patterns from a Global Perspective (in connection with a PluRel conference)
- Guest lecture by Kim Knott: Interrogating the Secular: A Spatial Approach (in connection with a PluRel conference)
2011:

In total, 25 seminars and guest lectures (23 in English).

Eight seminars with presentations from PhD- or Postdoc-fellows:

- Seminar on Religion, Civility and Conflict
- Seminar on Giving Meaning to Mary: Producing Symbols of Suffering at the Slovak National Pilgrimage
- Seminar on “Culture”, “religion”, and the Norwegian debate about Muslim women
- Seminar on Religion og likestilling. Hva er norske myndigheters politikk? («Religion and equality between the sexes: What is the policy of Norwegian authorities?»)
- Seminar on The Ethics of Trust. Perspectives from Islam
- Seminar on Defining and Reinventing Shinto: Religion, Secularism and Nationalism in the Context of Modern Japanese History
- Seminar on Babylonian Theology as an Intercultural Strategy
- Seminar on The Other in the A Common Word Dialogue Process

Six seminars organized by the research group Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum

- See details

Three seminars organized by the research group Tibetan and Himalayan Studies:

- See details for Autumn 2011

Four seminars/guest lectures organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Seminar on Islamisme og salafisme: hvor går frontene i dag? («Islamism and Salafism: Where are the fault lines today?»)
- Guest lecture by Tim Winter: British Muslims and the rhetoric of indigenisation
- Guest lecture by John Bowen: Islamic shariah councils in England: a challenge for civil law?

One guest lecture organized by the research group Constructs of Jerusalem:

- Guest lecture by Jaroslav Folda: The Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Crusader Jerusalem and Christian Multiculturalism in the Levant

Three other seminars/guest lectures:

- Guest lecture by Chiara Letizia: Shaping secularism in Nepal: reflections on goddess Kumari at the Supreme Court (related to the research initiative PROSPECT)
- Seminar on Interreligious conflict and peacebuilding in Nigeria
- Guest lecture by Gwendolyn Leick: The Cult of Dead Dictators: Popular Religion and the State
2010:

In total, 20 seminars and guest lectures.

Three seminars organized by the research group Media and Religion:

- See details for a series of seminars about “Media, normativity and secularity”

Three seminars by the research group Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum:

- Themes not specified here

Five seminars organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Seminar on Bror og nabo/neste i islamsk tradisjon («Brother and neighbor in Islamic tradition»)
- Seminar on Talal Asad og Saba Mahmood si tenkning om islam og sekularitet («Talal Asad and Saba Mahmood’s perspectives on Islam and secularity»)
- Seminar on Samtale om velayat-e faqih-doktrinen («The velayat-e faqih doctrine at the nexus of religion, politics and secularity»)
- Seminar on Religion og integrasjon blant norsk-pakistanske muslimer («Religion and Integration among Norwegian-Pakistani Muslims» – in connection with a PluRel-financed research project)
- Seminar on Forsking på sjia-islam i Norge («Research on Shi’ite Islam in Norway»)

Nine other seminars/guest lectures:

- Workshop on Sekularisme på norsk («Workshop on secularism in Norwegian»)
- Seminar on Den religiøse volden - misbru av religionen eller en nødvendig konsekvens? («Religious violence – misuse of religion or a necessary consequence?»)
- Seminar on Meditasjonens kulturhistorier («Cultural histories of meditation»)
- Seminar on “Å tro i Norge” - Religionsfrihet i globaliseringens tid («Believing in Norway, Beliefs in Norway: a ‘Humanitarian Great Power’ under Globalization» – in cooperation with Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law)
- Seminar on Festivaler og sosial inndeling: harmoni og motstand. En eksempelstudie fra Sør-India («Festivals and social stratification: harmony and resistance. A case study from South-India»)
- Seminar on Døden i tidlig protestantisk tradisjon («Death in early Protestant tradition»)
- Seminar on Sakralisering av kulturelle erindringssteder - hva innebærer sakralisering? («Sacralization of sites of cultural memory»)
- Guest lecture by José Casanova: Secularity in Context, Religion, Value Systems and Citizenships in Late Modern Europe (in cooperation with the Faculty of Theology)
- Guest lecture by Tariq Ramadan: The Quest for Meaning (in cooperation with IKOS, Faculty of Humanities)
2009:

In total, 15 seminars and guest lectures. In addition, six meetings in PluRel Forum (public meetings, see below).

One launching seminar: **Oppstartkonferansen 23.02.2009**

Six seminars organized by the three research areas (precursors to PluRel’s research groups)

- Seminar on **Synkretisme - et nyttig begrep?** («Syncretism – a useful concept?»; by research area 1)
- Seminar on **Utviklingen av religiøse diasporasamfunn - konsekvenser for integrasjon** («The development of religious diaspora communities – consequences for integration»; by research area 1)
- Seminar on **Bruk av historie i konstruksjon av religiøs identitet** («The use of history in the construction of religious identity»; by research area 1)
- Seminar on **Er sekularismen ‘vestlig’?** («Is secularism a Western phenomenon?»; by research area 1 and 3)
- Seminar on **Religion og kollektiv erindring** («Religion and collective memory»; by research area 2)
- Seminar on **Islamismeforskning ved UiO** («UiO-research on Islamism»; by research area 3)

Two seminars organized by the research group Islamic Studies:

- Seminar on **Secularism and Liberal Democracy**
- Seminar on **Negotiating the Future of Shari’a**

Six other seminars/guest lectures

- **The Oslo Buddhist Studies Forum** (cf. the later research group with the same name)
- **‘Interfaith rituals’ with digital technology** (cf. the later research group Media and religion)
- Seminar on **Buddhism and Militarism in Northeast, Southeast and South Asia** (in connection with the development of research ideas on religion, military chaplaincy and violence)
- Seminar: **The Kanchipuram Research Project**
- Guest lectures by Matti Bunzl: **Antisemitism and Islamofobia in the new Europe** (in cooperation with others)
- Guest lecture by Ronald L. Grimes: **Ritual, Media, and Conflict**
OTHER EVENTS

Book launches, 2012

- Book launch: Sekularisme med norske briller («Secularism – with Norwegian glasses»)
- Book launch: Religiøse ledere: makt og avmakt («Religious leaders. Power and powerlessness in Norwegian faith communities»)

PluRel Forum (2009) and other public meetings

- Hijab: et fagligperspektiv – mulig? Mars 2009 («Hijab: is a scholarly perspective possible?»)
- Særkrav vs. likebehandling? Åpent møte om ‘snikislamisering’ og religionsfrihet, mars 2009 («Special or equal treatment? On ‘covert islamization’ and freedom of religion»)
- Er media letturt i islamdebatten? April 2009, i samarbeid med Oslo journalistklubb («Are the media easily deceived in debates on Islam?»)
- «Snåsa» versus «Rikshospitalet». Åpent seminar om helse og religion i et pluralistisk Norge, May 2009 («Health and religion in a pluralist Norway»)
- Gaza i Oslo? Om ulike konfigureringer av forholdet mellom religion og politikk i det pluralistiske Norge, September 2009 («Gaza in Oslo? Configurations of religion and politics in pluralist Norway»)
- Organisert og uorganisert religion i Norge: folket og folkekirken, November 2009 («Organized and unorganized religion in Norway: the people and the people’s church»)
- Islamism and Uprising: Egypt and Syria, Professor Salwa Ismail in an open conversation with Prof. Bjørn Olav Utvik and Dr. Sindre Bangstad, UiO, April 2012.

Seminars with officials and politicians, 2009

- Religionspolitisk verksted for det norske samfunnet: et forum for dialog mellom politikere, forskere, mediefolk og representanter for tros- og livssynssamfunn, mai 2009 («Workshop on politics of religion in Norway», with politicians, researchers, media people and representatives of faith and life stance communities)
- Religion i pluralistiske samfunn. Presentasjon under arrangementet for UD’s stasjonssjefer, August 2009 («Religion in pluralist societies», presentation for officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs)