



7th Annual Conference of the European Academy of Religion

Panel Programme

Islam in secularized democracies: Issues of the over-politicization of a research topic

Pontificia Facoltà Teologia Sicilia
Hall MAUROLICO B
Via Vittorio Emanuele 463, Palermo

Monday, 20th May 2024
12:15 - 16:30

Introduction

12:15

· Welcoming of participants

12:30

· Introduction by Chairholder

Corinne Torrekens, PhD, Professor in Political Sciences

Director of the Group for research on Ethnic Relations, Migration and Equality - GERME
Université libre de Bruxelles, *Belgium*

Presentations and Questions

12:45

· Involvement of a Japan-based researcher in the study of Muslim communities in Europe:
Issues surrounding the production of knowledge in relation to increased outsidersness

Reiko MIHARA, PhD, Associate Professor in Sociology

Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, Doshisha University, *Kyoto, Japan*

13:15

· “But how do their families react to this?” - on the necessity of standpoint epistemology
for field research with Muslim sex-therapists

Julie MINDERS, PhD candidate in Sociology

GERME, Université libre de Bruxelles, *Belgium*

13:45

· Challenging the over-politicization of Islam in French Stand-up Comedy: Methodological Reflection on the researcher and the artist

Jeanne GAILLARD, PhD candidate in Sociology

SAGE, University of Strasbourg, *France*

· *Short break* ·

14:30

· Between Mosques and the State: Reflections on Positionality, Access and Research among Mosque-Communities in Belgium

Yehia MEKAWI, PhD candidate in Political Sciences

Associate et GERME, Université libre de Bruxelles

LSA Political Science, University of Michigan, *USA*

15:00

· Antifascist Activism Paving the Way in the Study of Islam: notes on positionality and accessing the field from two different fieldwork projects in France

Enrico Maria LA FORGIA, PhD candidate in Social Sciences

Université de Lille, *France* - Università di Padova, *Italy*

Conclusion

15:30

· Researching Islam in an over-politicized context, reflexions on theory and practice

Group discussion with Chair and Panelists

16:30 · *End of the Panel*