Pious radicals?
Strong religion and politics in modern Europe

International Conference, Universität Siegen, Germany
14–15 March 2019

Organizer:
Professor Dr. Veronika Albrecht-Birkner
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Philosophical Faculty
Research Initiative Popular Cultures

The conference is an activity of the European Bible Belt project, funded by the Dutch research council NWO.
Thursday 14 March 2019

10.00 OPENING SESSION
Dr. Niels Werber, Professor of Modern German Literature, Dean of Philosophical Faculty, Speaker of Research Initiative Popular Cultures at the University of Siegen:
Welcome address

10.15 Keynote lecture I
Introduction and Chair: Veronika Albrecht-Birkner
Dr. Gert Pickel, Professor of Church- and Religious Sociology at University of Leipzig, Germany: “Strong religion and radical politics? Remarks and empirical evidence”

11.30 Paper session 1: Religion and Revolution: Examples of France and Russia
Chair: Fred van Lieburg
Manuel Stadler (Leipzig/DE): Schism and Terror during the French Revolution
Igor Mikeshin (St. Petersburg/RU): The Revolutionary, the Martyr, the Apolitical: Political Narratives of Russian Evangelicals

12.30 LUNCH

13.30 Paper session 2: Religion and Politics: Examples of Germany, Norway and Finland
Chair: Britta Schröder
Christo Lombaard (Pretoria/ZA): Weighing Carl Schmitt anew: Implicit Religion in politics
Gerd Snellmann, Jakob Dahlbacka (Turku/FI): Institutional trust in the Ostrobothnian Bible belt. Laestadian views on governing authorities and political activity
Svein Ivar Langhelle (Stavanger/NO): Conservative and pious, «preserving the Christian Society». A Norwegian case

15.45 COFFEE

16.15 Paper session 3: Religion and Fundamentalism: Examples of England and the Netherlands
Chair: Peter Achterberg
Koos-jan de Jager (Amsterdam/NL): Radical(s) against vaccination. Conscientious objections to vaccination among Dutch ultra-orthodox Protestants during the Indonesian war of independence, 1945–1950
Paul Vermeer, Peer Scheepers (Nijmegen/NL): Comparing political attitudes of evangelicals with the attitudes of mainline Christians and non-church members in the Netherlands

18.15 DINNER AT THE RESTAURANT OF DORINT PARKHOTEL
Friday 15 March 2019

9.00 Keynote lecture II  
Introduction and Chair: Gert Pickel

Dr. Peter Achterberg, Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Tilburg University, the Netherlands: “A second home for Christians? Unraveling the relationship between religious background and populist voting in the Netherlands”

10.15 COFFEE

10.45 Paper session 4: Religion and identity: Example of Switzerland  
Chair: Gert Pickel

Amir Sheikhzadegan, Michael Nollert (Fribourg/CH): Political engagement of orthodox, Muslim (re-) converts in Switzerland: Assessing the interaction of life-history, social networks and identity transformation

11.30 Paper session 5: Religion, popular music and government support: Examples of Scandinavia, Russia and Serbia  
Chair: Florian Heesch

Andreas Häger (Turku/Fl): The use of Bob Dylan’s music in church services

12.15 LUNCH

13.30 Continuation of Paper session 5

Thomas Bossius (Gothenburg/SE): “Can I Take My Dog with Me to Heaven?” Swedish Country Music and Religion

Sabina Hadžibulić (Uppsala/SE): God is in the House: Nick Cave, Religion and Serbian Fandom

14.45 COFFEE

15.15 Continuation of Paper session 5

David-Emil Wickström (Mannheim/DE): My Pravoslavnye – Russkii rok, Orthodoxy and nationalism in post-Soviet Russia

16.00 CLOSING SESSION  
Chair: Veronika Albrecht-Birkner

Final Discussion

Dr. Fred van Lieburg, Professor of Religious History at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, the Netherlands: Concluding note on the 3-years European Bible Belt project