

Call for Papers: 2025 European Workshops in International Studies

Workshop title:

Bringing Religion into International Relations: from Facts to Theories

Workshop convenor:

Mr. Thomas Ching-Wei Tu (thomas.cw.tu@gmail.com / 111260502@nccu.edu.tw)

Religion and Politics are underexplored in international studies. Religion takes place both at the individual and state levels. It enlightens personal cosmology, self-consciousness, and self-identity, and more. It also occurs in competing authorities, from which Religion and Politics make them worth discussing in Political Science.

However, there are blank spaces at the international level, asking for a sound description of how religion—particularly the worldwide spread of gigantic religious regimes and their institutionalized constructions—penetrates the international system and affects decisions. In recent regional conflicts, such as the Israel-Palestine-Islamic Alliance or the Ukraine-Russia war, religious differences are the backbone of the disputes. The same perspective also sets forth the potential peace resolution.

The workshop aims to collect topics regarding the international levels, which leads to the anticipated discussion of a religion's bilateral diplomatic models, comparative analysis of non-state religious actors' modules affecting international regimes, religious states' behavior in global systems, etc. Also, it expects the discussion of IR theories to include religion as a variable in reflecting human nature. The workshop welcomes contributions that address the following questions:

- **Religion factors in a country's diplomatic decisions.** Why is religion a better explanatory factor than pure power calculation and national interest purchase?
- **Religion influences religion-based International regimes.** Are international structures and power deliberations still a better explanation? Or, how could religion be an additional variable to refine the current theory?
- **Religion factors in a specific cross-national conflict.** How do religious factors affect counterparts? Why is religion a vital variable compared with other competing variables?
- **Religious INGO's Influences on International Initiatives.** How do religious INGOs act collaboratively to affect or even lead the global initiative toward their theological or ethical teaching?
- **Other topics,** such as religion concerning bilateral diplomatic decision models, comparative analysis of non-state religious actors' modules affecting international regimes, and religious states' behavior in global systems, are expected and welcomed.