

International Conference “Monotheistic Believing and Pluralistic Societies from an Islamic Perspective”

How does Islam as a monotheistic religion distinguish itself from non-Islamic and non-religious worldviews? What might be the ethical and normative consequences of such distinctions? In what ways do these distinctions affect the coexistence and daily interaction of Muslims and non-Muslims?

In order to discuss these questions from diverse perspectives, the Department for Islamic-Religious Studies at the Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg is organizing the international conference “Monotheistic Believing and Pluralistic Societies from an Islamic Perspective”, to be held from November 7th - 9th, 2019.

The central matter of interest will be whether and how Islamic monotheistic understandings of God have impacted social interactions between Muslims and non-Muslims, in both historical and contemporary contexts. The contributions of internationally renowned experts will help to explore these questions from different angles. While some lectures will address the question of what the Koran and the prophetic tradition say about the dealing of Muslims with non-Muslim minorities and their religious practices, historical examples will shed light on the coexistence of multicultural and multireligious peoples in Islamic societies.

Contributions from the areas of systematic theology, practical theology, and *kalām* will clarify which opinions Muslim theologians have formulated and still formulate regarding coping with religious diversity from Islamic points of view.

Furthermore, the discipline of religious education considers different approaches and Islamic concepts of the multicultural and multireligious within the contemporary German and Western contexts. The question of interest in this field is which values should be taught in order to develop an attitude sensitive towards pluralism. Panels on Islamic law will, in turn, investigate how Muslim jurists have dealt with both the diversity of legal opinions and religious minorities in Muslim majority societies.