

# May 8th, Wednesday

14:00 – 16:00

## Registration

Ülikooli 18, the main building of the university

16:00 – 16:30

## Opening, Greetings

**Anti Selart** (Dean of Faculty of Arts and Humanities, University of Tartu), **Yaser Ellethy** (President of the ESITIS), **Roland Karo** (Head of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies), **Anne Kull** (Vice-President of the ESITIS, Local Organizer)

AULA

16:30 – 17:00

## The dominance of conflict as a guiding category

Keynote 1: **Nicholas Adams** (University of Birmingham)  
Funding and Beards: challenges to interreligious engagement  
Moderator: Yaser Ellethy

AULA

17:00 – 17:45

## Discussion

AULA

18:00 – 21:00

## Reception

Cafe Ülikooli

# May 9th, Thursday

9:00 – 9:30

## The challenges of conformity to Western intellectual models

Keynote 2: **Robert Vosloo** (Stellenbosch University)

Religious Traditions, Intellectual Postures, and Incompleteness: In Search of a Responsible Hermeneutic of Tradition for Interreligious Engagement

Moderators: Gé Speelman, Matthew Robinson

**AULA**

9:30 – 10:15

## Discussion

10:15 – 10:45

## Coffee break

**Cafe Ülikooli**

10:45 – 12:45

## Short Paper Sessions

Session 1: **The Dominance of conflict as a guiding category**

**Manda Adrian** (University of Bonn), “Religious Freedom in Indonesia”

**Evakordor Diengdoh** (University of Tartu), “Conflict as a guiding category: Khasi Religion or Khasi culture?”

**Miriam Schneider** (VU Amsterdam), “Declarations and their contribution to the wider field of interreligious Dialogue”

**Daan F. Oostveen** (Utrecht University), “Conflict, interreligious dialogue, and the ethics of affirmation”

**aud. 128**

## Session 2: **The challenges of conformity to Western intellectual models**

**Rasika Abeysinghe** (Sri Lanka) “Disentangling Buddhism from Culture: Conflict and Relationship with Christianity over the years in Sri Lanka” ([online](#))

**Atko Rimmel** (University of Tartu) “Overcoming the dichotomy between religion and secularity: concepts and strategies”

**Hannah Visser** (VU Amsterdam), “Accountability and the Evaluation of Interfaith initiatives: Toward a Learning Approach to Evaluation”

**Carol-Teodor Peterfi** (University of Tartu), “Harnessing Faith: The Role of Churches in Weapons of Mass Destruction Nonproliferation”  
[aud. 139](#)

13:00 – 14:30

**Lunch**

14:30 – 15:30

**ESITIS General Assembly**

[aud. 139](#)

15:30 – 16:00

**Coffee break**

[Cafe Ülikooli](#)

16:00 – 16:30

**The challenges of borrowing and appropriations**

Keynote 3: **Elizabeth Bucar** (Northeastern University)

Is Appropriation a Useful Category for Religious Studies?

Moderator: Nicholas Adams

**AULA**

16:30 – 17:15

**Discussion**

# May 10th, Friday

9:00 – 9:30

## **The promise of vernacular and lived religions approaches**

Keynote 4: **Ülo Valk** (University of Tartu, Estonia)

Vernacular Perspective in Folkloristics and Personal Experience

Narratives of the Supernatural

Moderator: Anne Kull

**AULA**

9:30 – 10:15

## **Discussion**

10:15 – 10:45

## **Coffee break**

**Ülikooli Cafe**

10:45 – 12:45

## **Paper Sessions**

### **Session 3: The promise of vernacular and lived religions approaches**

**Jane Orton** (Independent scholar, the UK), “Talking About Tigers: the Sundarbans Forest Tiger and the People who Live in its Shadow”

**Elo Süld** (University of Tartu, Head of the Asia Centre), “Jinn and Islamic religious authority: a case analysis from Java island, Indonesia”

**Anita Stasulane** (Daugavpils University, Latvia) “Dynamics of Lived Religion in Refugees’ Narratives”

**aud. 139**

#### Session 4: **The promise of vernacular and lived religions approaches**

**Chimi Baobao** “Taking a Train to Beijing and Flying to the US“: The Transference of Misfortune in the Eastern Minyang Community”

**Margaret Lyngdoh** (University of Tartu) “On the Viability of the Methodological Approach of “Vernacular Religion” from the Context of Indigenous Northeast India”

**Lodewyk Barkhuizen** (University of Tartu) “Looking to the Future in a Practice that Favours the Past: Exploring South African “traditional” healing practices and Christianity”

**Elena Romashko** (University of Göttingen), “Matter, Ethics and Ritual in the Transformations within the post-Chernobyl Orthodoxy”

**aud. 128**

#### Session 5: **Scholar-activism and relations between traditions**

**Joseph O’Neil** (Trinity College Dublin) “A Critical Assessment of the Roman Catholic Church and World Council of Churches Approach to Interreligious Dialogue”

**Sybille Fritsch-Oppermann** (Clausthal University of Technology) “Catharsis and Greater Jihad as Inner Purification and Wise Measure and Dimension in Human Co-existence”

**Linus Glenhaber** (University of Bonn), “The Social Gospel and the Social Question: An Intercultural Comparison of American and German Approaches to Social Ethics at the Start of the 20th Century, with a Focus on Francis Greenwood Peabody and August Tholuck”

**Charles Ryu** (United Methodist, the USA) “Liturgical Process as Container of Conrescence for Experiential Truth Claims: Curating an Interfaith Vigil at a Peacemaking Rall”

**aud. 230**

12:45 – 14:15

## Lunch

14:15 – 14:45

## The challenges of funding restrictions and conformity to donor interests

Keynote 5: **Anne Hege Grung** (University of Oslo, Norway)

The Geopolitics of Interreligious Dialogue

Moderator: Henry Jansen

**AULA**

14:45 – 15:30

## Discussion

15:30 – 15:45

## Coffee break

**Cafe Ülikooli**

## Recreational options:

a) 16:30-18:30

### The barge trip with Jõmmu

More information can be found at: <https://www.lodi.ee/en>

**Start: Lodjakoda, Ujula 98** (ca 25 min. walk or by taxi)

b) 16:00-18:00

### A walking tour in Tartu with Katrin Alekand

**Start: Ülikooli 18**

# May 11th, Saturday

9:00 – 9:30

## **Scholar-activism and relations between traditions**

Keynote 6 **Paul Hedges** (Nanyang Technological University)

The Scholar-Activist as Educator Amidst Religious and Non-Religious Diversity

Moderator: Julianne Funk

**AULA**

9:30 – 10:15

## **Discussion**

10:15 – 10:45

## **Coffee break**

**Cafe Ülikooli**

10:45 – 11:45

## **Workshop Strategies for publishing**

Julianne Funk and Henry Jansen

**aud. 128**

11:45 – 12:30

## **The Next Generation: Highlights from/of the conference and thoughts for the future**

Rahel Toomik, Igor Ahmedov, Lodewyk Barkhuizen, Jason S. Cordova

**aud. 128**

## **Conference closing**

**An optional guided tour at the Estonian National Museum** ([www.erm.ee/en](http://www.erm.ee/en))

Registration needed before or during the conference (guided tour is free, but the ticket to the museum needs to be bought)