



## Trajnimi i Imamëve dhe Mësuesve për Edukatë Islame në Evropën Juglindore

### *Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Southeast Europe*

Konferencë ndërkombëtare  
21-24 Tetor 2011  
Prishtinë, Kosovë

*International Conference*  
21<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> October 2011  
Pristine, Kosovo

# **Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Southeast Europe**

21-24 October, 2011

## **Programme 2011**

*Programmguide 2011*


*Hotel Victory  
Nëna Terezë, pn. Prishtinë, 10000 Kosovë*



**universität  
wien**



**ÖSTERREICHISCHE KULTURVEREINIGUNG**  
GEGRÜNDET 1948  
REGIONAL AUSTRIAN COOPERATION OFFICE  
IN SCIENCE AND CULTURE SARAJEVO

 Federal Ministry for  
European and International Affairs

## introduction

The conference will delve into the significant question of how the training of Imams and teachers can contribute to the integration of Muslims in Europe. Prestigious scientists in the field of education and theology will be invited from various European countries. In addition, scholars from other continents will also be invited this year to enrich the conference. Conference participants will examine different theological models for the training of imams in Europe, the integration situation in various countries, and concepts for teachers' education.

Moreover, professional working groups will gather in workshops on specific topics and present their deliberations in a large plenary. In this context, the conference will also deal with the question of what form the contextualization of Islam in Europe should take, how Muslim children and youngsters can grow up without being attacked by the society because of their religiosity. The inter-Islamic dialogue is encouraged to be revived and to target common reforms. The conference will also offer a unique opportunity for the European reform initiatives, particularly for the Southeast European ones, to gather at a table and to focus on future visions and plans. The conference is going to provide an outstanding context to discuss in-depth principles of the European imams' and teachers' training and to plan new strategies and reforms in concrete terms. The conference is going to provide an important opportunity for young Muslim scholars to gather in one place and engage in constructive exchange. Both the presentations and discussions and the results of the conference will be published which will provide an indispensable contribution to discourse on Muslim integration in Europe. Unlike the previous Balkan conferences this year a special emphasis will be placed on the promotion of women, thus female scholars will be invited in order to incorporate their research findings and approaches to the discourse and debate on Imam and teacher education. This will introduce new approaches and results from gender and feminist research thereby widening all of our horizons.

## organisers

### **University of Vienna**



*Faculty of Philosophy and Education, Islamic Religious Education*

*Ednan Aslan  
Zsofia Windisch  
Ilire Halimi Poniku*

### **Islamic Community in Kosovo**



*Faculty of Islamic Studies*

*Qazim Qazimi  
Muzaqete Kosumi*

## sponsors

*The Austrian Foreign Ministry*

*Faculty of Islamic Studies, Islamic Community in Kosovo*

*Regional Austrian Cooperation Office in Science and Culture Sarajevo*

*University of Vienna*

Friday, 21. October 2011

10.00-11.30

*Opening Ceremony*

- Rame Buja** Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Republic of Kosovo
- Johann Brieger** Austrian Ambassador to Kosovo
- Naim Tërnavaj** President of Islamic Community, Republic of Kosovo
- Qazim Qazimi** Dean of Faculty of Islamic Studies, Islamic Community in Kosovo
- Ednan Aslan** Chair of Islamic Religious Education, Department of Education, University of Vienna

11.30-12.30

*The Friday Prayer*

12.30-13.45

*1<sup>st</sup> Session*

*Moderator: Besa Ismaili, Islamic Community in Kosovo*

- 12.30 Qazim Qazimi** Religious Identity and Globalism  
*Islamic Community in Kosovo*
- 12.45 Herol Tabak** The Religious Education in Albania: The Case of Madrasah of Tirana in time intervals 1924-1964 and 1991- and on  
*University of Bedër*
- 13.00 Muhamed Ali** Islamic Education in Macedonia
- 13.15 Xhabir Hamiti** The status of the imam and its position in the past and present- with the focus on the Albanian territories  
*Islamic Community in Kosovo*

13.30-14.00

*Discussions*

14.00-14.30

*Lunch break*

Friday, 21. October 2011

15.00-16.45

*2<sup>nd</sup> Session*

*Moderator: Zoltan Sulok, Organization of Muslims in Hungary*

- 15.00 Mustafa Hasani** The status of Imams in Bosnia and Hercegovina  
*University of Sarajevo*
- 15.15 Muamer Zukorlic** The role and importance of Mosque in Islamic Community  
*Islamic community in Serbia*
- 15.30 Aziz Hasanović** Croatian training for Imams and professors for Islamic Education in Europe  
*Islamic Community of Croatia*
- 15.45 Omer Kajoshaj** Dawah in the changing world-New challenges in the work of Imams  
*Islamic Community of Montenegro*
- 16.00 Sefer Hasanov** Training of Imams and Religious Teachers in Bulgaria  
*Higher Islamic Studies Institute- Sofia*

16.15-16.45

*Discussions*

16.45-17.00

*Coffee break*

17.00-18.45

*3<sup>rd</sup> Session*

*Moderator: Eileen M. Daily*

- 17.00 Vahidin Behluli** Practices for the professional advancement of Imam and Teachers of Islamic Education in Austria  
*Union for Albanian Muslims in Austria*
- 17.15 Samim Akgönül** Training imams, and Higher education of Islam in France  
*University of Strasbourg*
- 17.30 Mohammed Ghaly** Training Imams in Europe: The Challenges of Developing a Unified Program, Leiden University as a Study Case  
*Leiden University*
- 17.45 Johan Meuleman** Educating for an old profession in a new context: the imam training programme of Inholland University, the Netherlands  
*Inholland University*
- 18.00 Rehan Neziri** Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Switzerland between Real Local Necessity and Imported Fear  
*Imam, Switzerland*

18.15-18.45

*Discussions*

19.00

*Dinner*

## Saturday, 22 October 2011

9.00-11.00

### 4<sup>th</sup> Session

Moderator: *Ednan Aslan*

- 9.00** **Said Shagaviev** Preparation and Retraining of Imams in Russia (on an example of Tatarstan)  
Russian Islamic University
- 9.15** **George Mircea Botescu** The European model of Dobrogean Islam  
University of Bucharest
- 9.30** **Rustam Gafari** Islamic education in modern society is in minority conditions  
Deputy Mufti of Ukraine
- 9.45** **Ibrahim Serif** The Legal Statue of the Muslim Turkish Minority of Western Thrace-Greece. The Current Situation on Religion and belief and the activities of the elected Mufti of Komotini.  
Mufti of Komotini
- 10.00** **Seyma Arslan** Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Turkey  
Istanbul University

10.15-10.45

*Discussions*

10.45-11.00

*Coffee break*

11.00-13.00

### 5<sup>th</sup> Session

Moderator: *Yasir Suleiman, University of Cambridge*

- 11.00** **Abdullah Sahin** The Training of Muslim Clergy (imams) and Teachers in the UK: challenges & ways forward  
Centre for Muslim Educational Thought & Practice, the United Kingdom
- 11.15** **Yacob Mahi** Training of Imams and Teachers for Islamic Education in Belgium  
University Strasbourg
- 11.30** **Juan Ferreiro Galguera** Spain: training centres for imams  
University of A Coruña
- 11.45** **Jørgen S. Nielsen** Reflections on the role and training of Islamic imams and teachers for Europe  
University of Copenhagen

12.00-12.30

*Discussions*

13.00-15.00

*Lunch break*

15.00-16.45

### 6<sup>th</sup> Session

Moderator: *Zsofia Windisch*

- 15.00** **Kevsler Muratovic** Relationship between Imams and Adolescents
- 15.15** **Ilire Halimi Poniku** Implementation of the Quality Standards - a good opportunity for the advancement of Islamic Education in Kosovo
- 15.30** **Jeton Mehmeti** Imams in western societies - why communication skills matter as much as the knowledge for future Kosovo imams?
- 15.45** **Besa Ismaili Ahmeti** Kosovo women and Mosque
- 16.00** **Muhammad Riaz & Muhammad Nadeem** Need assessment of Imams training in Pakistan

16.15-17.00

*Discussions*

17.00

*Cultural Program*

20.00

*Dinner*

## Saturday, 22 October 2011

## Sunday, 23 October 2011

9.00-10.45

### 8<sup>th</sup> Session

Moderator: *Abdullah Sahin*

- 9.00** **Martin Rothgangel** „Spiritual competence“ – A new Key Term for Protestant Churches in German-speaking Countries  
University of Vienna
- 9.15** **Eileen M. Daily** Formation of Catholic Religious Educators in the United States  
Loyola University Chicago
- 9.30** **Muhammad Naeem Mohsin** Status and analysis of Imams' professional development in Pakistan  
University of Education, Lahore
- 9.45** **Ali Yurtsever** The role of Imams (Muslim Chaplain) and Imam training in the US  
Niagara Educational Services

10.00-10.30

*Discussions*

10.30-11.15

*Coffee break*

11.00-12.00

*Summary and Conclusions*

12.00

*Trip to Prizren*

14.00

*Lunch*

20.00

*Dinner*

## Participants

### Albania

**Ferdinand Gjana**  
Rector, University of Bedër

**Ayhan Tekines**  
Dean, University of Bedër

**Bayram Karci**  
Lecturer, University of Bedër

**Herol Tabak**  
Lecturer, University of Bedër

**Elton Karaj**  
Lecturer, University of Bedër

### Austria

**Ednan Aslan**  
Chair of Islamic Religious Education, Department of Education  
University of Vienna

**Zsofia Windisch**  
Study Assistant, Islamic Religious Education, Department of Education  
University of Vienna

**Martin Rothgangel**  
Professor of Faculty of Evangelic Theology, Institute of Religious Education  
University of Vienna

**Vahidin Behluli**  
Union for Albanian Muslims in Austria

### Belgium

**Yacob Mahi**  
Islamic scholar from Brussels, Professor of Islamology in Strasbourg and  
teacher in Brussels

### Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Mustafa Hasani**  
Faculty of Islamic Studies  
University of Sarajevo

**Ismet Busattic**  
Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies  
University of Sarajevo

**Kamala Šertović**  
Regional Austrian Cooperation Office in Science and Culture  
Sarajevo

### Croatia

**Aziz Hasanovic**  
Deputy Mufti of Croatia

### Denmark

**Jørgen S. Nielsen**  
Centre for European Islamic Thought, Faculty of Theology  
University of Copenhagen

### France

**Samim Akgönül**  
Professor of Turkologie  
University of Strasbourg

### Greece

**Ibrahim Serif**  
Mufti of Komotini

**Tzemil Kapza**

### Hungary

**Zoltán Sulok**  
Organization of Muslims in Hungary

### Kosovo

**Qazim Qazimi**  
Dean, Faculty of Islamic Studies  
Islamic Community in Kosovo

**Xhabir Hamiti**  
Associate Professor, Faculty of Islamic Studies  
Islamic Community in Kosovo

**Besa Ismaili**  
Professor of English Language, Faculty of Islamic Studies  
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**Muzaqete Kosumi**  
Faculty of Islamic Studies, Islamic Community in Kosovo

### Macedonia

**Muhamed Ali**  
Faculty of Islamic Studies  
Skopje

### Montenegro

**Omer Kajoshaj**  
Islamic Community

### Netherlands

**Mohammed M.I. Ghaly,**  
Leiden Institute for Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities  
Leiden University

**Johan Meuleman**  
Lecturer, Imam, Islamic Spiritual Worker Training Programme  
Inholland University of Applied Sciences  
Faculty of Education, Learning & Life Philosophy Amsterdam

**Mucahid Sagsu**  
Lecturer, Imam, Islamic Spiritual Worker Training Programme  
Inholland University of Applied Sciences  
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### Pakistan

**Naeem M. Mohsin**  
Assistant Professor,  
University of Education, Lahore

### Romania

**Mircea Botescu**  
Faculty of Sociology and Social Work  
University of Bucharest

### Russia

**Said Shagaviev**  
Head of Department of Islamic Theology  
Russian Islamic University

### Serbia

**Muamer Zukorlic**  
Grand Mufti of Islamic Community in Serbia and President of International  
University in Novi Pazar

### Spain

**Juan Ferreiro Galguera**  
Professor of Law  
University of A Coruña

### Switzerland

**Neziri Rejhan**  
Imam

### Turkey

**Seyma Arslan**  
Hasan Ali Yucel Teacher Training Faculty, Department of Religious Culture  
and Moral Knowledge, Istanbul University

### Ukraine

**Rustam Gafuri**  
Deputy Mufti of Ukraine, Head of Information Department of The Religious  
Administration of Ukrainian Muslims

### United Kingdom

**Abdullah Sahin**  
Head of Research, Centre for Muslim Educational Thought & Practice

**Yasir Suleiman**  
His Majesty Sultan Qaboos Bin Sa'id Professor of Modern Arabic Studies,  
Founding Director, Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Centre of Islamic Studies  
University of Cambridge

### United States

**Ali Yurtsever**  
Instructional Coordinator, Niagara Educational Services, Chicago

**Eileen M. Daily**  
Program Director, MA Religious Education Program, Institute of Pastoral  
Studies  
Loyola University Chicago

**Kevser Muratovic & Ilire Halimi**  
University of Vienna

**Jeton Mehmeti & Besa Ismaili Ahmeti**  
Kosovo

**Muhammad Riaz & Muhammad Nadeem**  
Pakistan

## Participants

## Young scholars



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