



Programme

Political Theologies after Christendom

27-29 March 2023

New College, Oxford

Sunday 26 March

3.30-4.45pm	Choral Evensong Preacher: Arch Cyril Hovorun University Church of St Mary the Virgin, High Street Oxford
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Monday 27 March

8.45-9.10	Registration & Coffee
9.15-9.25	Conference opening Marietta van der Tol (UK)
9.25-10.15	Opening Keynote Petr Kratochvíl (Czech Republic), <i>Christianity at War: Global Christendom(s) and the Orthodox Crisis</i> Chair: Sophia Johnson (UK)
10.15-10.30	Break
10.30-12.30	Orthodoxy and the Russo-Ukrainian war Chair: Marietta van der Tol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Anonymous, <i>Three images of the 'Russki mir' in Russia and Ukraine</i> ✚ Valeriy Sekisov (Ukraine), <i>Overcoming the false dichotomies of the "Russian world": some aspects of Ukrainian political theology amid the war</i> ✚ Joshua Searle (UK), <i>Post-Christendom and the Critique of Christian Theocracy in the Context of the Russian War Against Ukraine</i> ✚ Marco Guglielmi (Italy), <i>Lived Theologies of Orthodox Christian Diasporas: Shaping a Cross-borders 'Christendom'?</i>
12.30-1.30	Hot Lunch in Hall
1.30-3.30	The right-wing claim to Christendom A Chair: Hannah Strømme (Sweden) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Björn Vikström (Finland), <i>Christianity, nationalism and populism in the Nordic Countries</i> ✚ Thomas Rausch (USA), <i>Has white evangelical Christianity substituted right-wing extremism for the Gospel?</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Veronica Cibotaru (Belgium), <i>The relationship between the Russian Orthodox Church and the Russian government: a theological-political correlation</i> ✚ Niamph O'Brien (UK), <i>Christian civilisation and democratic pluralism in Poland's frontier identity</i> <p>OR</p> <p>The right-wing claim to Christendom B Chair: Austin Stevenson (UK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Stephen Dolan (UK), <i>Unity through Faith: Theology as a root to national unity in post-Trianon Hungary</i> ✚ Andreas Bernberg (UK), <i>Which Christendom? Whose political theology?</i> ✚ Theo Poward (UK), <i>Secular Appropriation of the Mystical Body</i> ✚ Octavian Gabor (USA), <i>Nationalism and the Question of Love in Christianity</i>
3.30-3.50	Coffee break
3.50-5.20	<p>Understanding Christendom's violence Chair: Michael Weinman (UK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Katharina Kunter (Finland), <i>Historical bricks of a new European post-war theology in the 21st century</i> ✚ Matthew Rowley (USA), <i>Confessing the past, connecting the dots: Protestant American attitudes towards historical injustice</i> ✚ Regina Elsner (Germany), <i>Unpacking violence: exploring religious structural violence as a pretext for war in Orthodoxy</i>
7.30	<p>Public Keynote, Roundtable & Drinks Siobhán Garrigan (Ireland), <i>Christian Imaginings of Home: Political Theology after Christendom</i>. Followed by roundtable with Cyril Hovorun, Katja Tolstoj, Ntando Mlambo, and Mika Vähäkangas. <i>This lecture is hosted by the University Church of St Mary the Virgin</i></p>

Tuesday 28 March

9.00-10.30	<p>Political theology after violence Chair: Petr Kratochvíl (Czech Republic)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Zoran Grozdanov (Croatia), <i>Is there theology after genocides?</i> ✚ Elisa Koch (UK), <i>Friedrich-Wilhelm Marquardt's Theology after Auschwitz: A 21st Century Reappraisal</i> ✚ Elisabeth Becker (Germany), <i>Political Theologies of Hope after Auschwitz: A Dialectic of Jewish and Christian Perspectives</i>
10.30-11.00	Break
11.00-12.30	<p>Theology and Study of Religion after Gulag, Bucha and Beyond <i>With Katja Tolstoj (Netherlands), Zuzanna Bogumił (Poland), Nadezhda Beliakova, and Paul Gavriljuk (USA)</i> Chair: Marietta van der Tol (UK)</p>
12.30-1.15	Sandwich lunch in Hall

1.15-2.45	<p>Resistance and Re-imagination Chair: Jenny Leith (UK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ King-Ho Leung (UK), <i>Afro-pessimism and the re-imagination of political theology</i> ✚ David Newheiser (Australia), <i>Political theology as a resource for resistance: on the power of negativity</i> ✚ Ufuk Topkara (Germany), <i>Political theology through responsibility: Islamic thought engages with Christian theology</i> <p>OR Russia in imperial thought Chair: Cyril Hovorun (Sweden)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Dustin Byrd (USA), <i>From St. Paul and Carl Schmitt to Alexander Dugin, The Katechon as a Political Category in Empire Building</i> ✚ Dmytro Bintsarovskiy (Netherlands), <i>Putinism and the religious views of Alexander Solzhenitsyn</i> ✚ Dmytri Biriukov, <i>Historical and Current Perspectives on Russian Byzantino-Centrism: From Ivan Kireevsky to Alexander Dugin</i>
2.45-3.15	Coffee
3.15-4.45	<p>Lessons from post-Apartheid South Africa Chair: Mika Vähäkangas (Finland)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Lerato Kobe (South Africa), <i>Desmond Tutu's Theology of Forgiveness</i> ✚ Ntando Mlambo (South Africa), <i>What is whiteness outside of blackness: A possible political theology after the colony</i> ✚ Cobus van Wyngaard (South Africa), <i>Political theology and the persistent explorations of liberation under the afterlife of apartheid</i>
7.30	Formal Dinner in College

Wednesday 29 March

8.45-10.15	<p>Political Thought and Theology A Chair: Sophia Johnson (UK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Michael Weinman (USA), <i>Arendt's Augustine: Responding to "Weimar Syndrome" in the wake of cataclysm</i> ✚ Joshua Blanchard (UK), <i>Invalid identities: political discourse beyond identity</i> ✚ Emily Kempson (UK), <i>From Augustine to Gutiérrez and the Present Day; a Post-Christendom Political Theology</i> <p>OR Political Thought and Theology B Chair: John Heathershaw (UK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Paul Billingham (UK), <i>Sovereignty, Subsidiarity, and Competence-Competence</i> ✚ Jonathan Chaplin (UK), <i>Living it up in Hotel Divinitia: can Cécile Laborde's 'minimal secularism' accommodate Adrian Vermeule's 'Catholic integralism'?</i>
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	✚ Austin Stevenson (UK), <i>Christian Vaccine Hesitancy: The Church between Science and State</i>
10.15-10.30	Break
10.30-12.30	<p>Gender after Christendom Chair: Katharina Kunter (Finland)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Heleen Zorgdrager (Netherlands), <i>Gender and nation building in emerging political theologies in Ukraine</i> ✚ Kristine Margvelashvili (Georgia), <i>Gender after Christendom: Orthodox European tendencies</i> ✚ Tobias Müller (USA), <i>Political Theology beyond politics and religion? Transnational Brazilian Pentecostalism, capitalist faith and reconfigurations of patriarchy</i> ✚ Konstantinos Papastaitis and Anastasia Litina (Greece), <i>Normalizing the PRR Discourse through Religion (?): Family Ethics, Women's Rights, and Voting Behavior within the period 1981-2020 and a Special Investigation in the COVID-19 Era</i>
12.30-13.15	Sandwich Lunch
13.15-15.15	<p>Pathways to the future Chair: Marietta van der Tol (UK)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✚ Mika Vähäkangas (Finland), <i>Models of being a church in the world of nations</i> ✚ Joshua Hordern (UK), <i>A critical evaluation of the public legitimacy of the Church of England</i> ✚ John Heathershaw (UK), <i>Radical inclusion and the "equality of hope": René Girard and the post-Christendom politics of migration</i>
15.15-15.30	Closing

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