

Locating the Self, Negotiating the Other:
Conversion and Imperial Rule in the Early Modern Period

Organisers: Prof. Dr. Ricarda Vulpius, Nikolas Ender Mlitt
(Department of Eastern European History at the University of Münster)

05/10/2023-07/10/2023

The conference will take place at Liudgerhaus: Überwasserkirchplatz 3, 48143 Münster

Wednesday, 4 October

Arrival in Münster, accommodation at the IDP-Liudgerhaus

19:00 Optional Dinner at the *Große Kiepenkerl*

Thursday, 5 October

10:00-10:30 Ricarda Vulpius and Nikolas Ender (Münster): *Welcome and Introduction*

10:30-12:30 Panel 1: The “Newly Converted” in Early Modern Empires

Victoria Gerasimova (Warsaw): Jewish Conversion in the 18th Century Russian Empire: From Church Mystery to Act of Civil Status

Bernhard Holl (Potsdam): The Facts and the Fables: Conversion Narratives about Iberian New Christians Then and Now [ZOOM](#)

Ricarda Vulpius (Münster): From *Inozemcy* (from other lands) to *Inovercy* (from other beliefs) and *Novokreščeny* (newly baptised): Othering in the 18th Century

Comments: Barbara Skinner (Terre Haute)

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-16:00 Panel 2: Conversion and Nation-Building

İlkay Kirişçioğlu (Rome): Political Discourse Converted by Identity Shift: A Different Trajectory of the Hungarian Patriotism in the 19th Century

Barbara Skinner (Terre Haute): Contested Sacral Space: Belarusian and Ukrainian Churches during the Uniate “Reunion” to Orthodoxy, 1830-1850

Paul Werth (Las Vegas): Armenians, Empire, and the Politics of Conversion in the 19th Century

Comments: Katherine Kelaidis (Chicago)

16:00-16:30 Coffee Break

16:30-18:30 Panel 3: Conversion and Colonialism

Thomas Croisez (Fiesole): Une Terre aux Vignes Contestées: Missionary Rivalries and Instrumentalization of Conversion in French Louisiana (18th Century)

Jessica Cronshagen (Oldenburg): Labour, Conversion and Imperial Utopias in the Mission of the Moravian Church in Suriname (ca. 1735-1810)

Gabriela Ramos (Cambridge): Discursive and Institutional Strategies of Conversion to Catholicism in the Colonial Andes [ZOOM](#)

Comments: Paul Werth (Las Vegas)

19:00 Dinner

Friday, 6 October

09:30-11:30 *Panel 4: Conversion and the Pluralisation of Religious Discourses*

Daniele Colonnetti (Naples): The Conceptualization of the Northern Frontier of New Spain in the Sixteenth Century

Andrea Maria D'Amato (Bologna): Strategies of Conversion and Indigenous Mimesis in Nueva España (16th Century). The Case of the Florentine Codex [ZOOM](#)

Ben Leathley (Bologna): The 17th-Century Conceptualisation of 'Indian religion' in the Open Deure Composed by the Reformed Predikant Abraham Rogerius

11:30-12:00 *Coffee Break*

12:00-13:00 Guillermo Wilde (Buenos Aires): Imperial Catholicism and Indigenous Cosmologies. Religious Conversion on the Frontiers of Colonial Latin America [ZOOM](#)

Comments: Thomas Croisez (Fiesole)

13:00-14:00 *Lunch Break*

14:00-16:00 *Panel 5: Transimperial Conversions*

Daniel Bamford (Birmingham): The Renegade Household of the Ottoman Grand Admiral and the English Embassy, 1588 – 1597 [ZOOM](#)

Katherine Kelaidis (Chicago): Heading East: 18th Century Converts to Eastern Orthodox Christianity, London, Moscow, and Captive Greece

Silvia Notarfonso (Florence/Verona): 17th-Century Multi Confessional Ottoman Albania

16:00-16:30 *Coffee Break*

16:30-17:30 Felicita Tramontana (Rome/Warwick): Conversion in the Ottoman Empire and Imperial Policies (17th-18th Centuries)

Comments: Jessica Cronshagen (Oldenburg)

17:30-18:30 *Closing Remarks and Final Discussion*

19:00 Dinner

Saturday, 7 October (Optional)

10:00 Münster City Tour

12:00 Lunch at the Farmer's Market

Departure