An event hosted by the Cluster of Excellence “Religion and Politics in Modern and Pre-Modern Cultures” of WWU Münster. The research association is formed by over 200 academics from 20 humanistic and socio-scientific disciplines and from eleven countries. They investigate the complex relationship of religion and politics from Antiquity to the present and from Latin America and Europe to the Arab and the Asian World. It is nationally the largest research association of its kind and of the 37 Clusters of Excellence in Germany, it is the only one to deal with religions. The federal government and the federal states fund the project in the Excellence Initiative context with 37 million Euros until 2012.

Exzellenzcluster „Religion und Politik“
Johannisstraße 1-4
48143 Münster
Tel. +49 251 83-23376
Fax +49 251 83-23246
religionundpolitik@uni-muenster.de

www.religion-und-politik.de
The conference “Iconic Turns” will explore the multiple connections of religious and national identities in Eastern European countries after the turn of 1989. The cinema, at the center of the continuous production of “imagined communities”, will serve as our focus, both as a powerful image-machine and a site of collective practices. Films provide images, myths and narratives that pertain to the construction of collective identities. For example, a film might discuss how to relate to Europe as a space, suggest suitable historical narratives, or propose national heroes and heroines.

In the context of Eastern Europe post 1989, cinematic attempts to imagine the nation are often linked to religious traditions. Not only do the concepts of “nation” and “religion” gain new importance in the post-communist era, but they also create productive and sometimes conflictual interactions. These interactions deserve a closer look from both a historical and a (film-)analytical perspective. We are equally interested in the common features of these interactions, as well as in the differences between Eastern European countries ways of relating nation and religion. From this perspective, the political turn of 1989 can be understood as an “iconic turn” as well that relates nation to religion in new filmic configurations, pictures and narratives, thereby preparing these configurations for means of collective identifications.

**Friday, 18 June 2010**

18.15–18.30 Welcome and Introduction to the Conference

18.30–19.45 Film und Religion im Osten Europas. Historische und theoretische Aspekte eines interdisziplinären Themas | Hans-Joachim Schlegel, Berlin

20.00 Dinner

**Saturday, 19 June 2010**

**Power(s) and Identities**

Moderation: Hans-Joachim Schlegel, Berlin


09.45–10.30 The Power, the People, and the Role of Religion in the Films of Pavel Lungin, Russia | Eva Binder, Innsbruck

Break

11.00–11.45 Empire and Nation in Russian Religious Films | Liliya Berezhnaya, Münster


Break

**Memory and War**

Moderation: Natascha Drubek-Meyer, Regensburg

15.00–15.45 A Cinematic Churchman. Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky in Oles Yanchuk’s *Vladyko Andrei*, Ukraine | John-Paul Himka, Edmonton

15.45–16.30 Representing the Unrepresentable. *Katyn* (Poland, 2007) by Andrzej Wajda | Nicole Kandioler, Wien

Break

17.00–17.45 *No Man’s Land oder: Religion und Nation im Kriegsfilm aus Bosnien* | Marijana Erstic, Siegen

17.45–18.30 Do Not Be Afraid! – A Must See Movie about War & Love? The (Re-)Birth of “Sacred Nationalism” and “Patriotic Religiosity” in Armenian Films | Harutyun Harutyunyan, Münster

19.00 Dinner

**Sunday, 20 June 2010**

**Imagining the Sacred and the Secular**

Moderation: Hans-Ulrich Thamer, Münster

09.00–09.45 Freak Nation. György Pálfi’s *Taxidermia* and Community’s Grotesque/Sacred Body | Christian Schmitt, Münster


Break

11.00–11.45 The Imaginary of the New Romanian Cinematographers and the Christian Orthodox Iconography | Doru Pop, Cluj


12.30–13.00 Concluding Discussion