

Contents

- **Engaging with the Other: Religion, Identity, and Politics in the Mediterranean**
by AVI ASTOR and MAR GRIERA (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
- **Historical Trajectories and Ambivalences of Turkish Minority Discourse**
by MARKUS DRESSLER (Bayreuth University)
- **Toleration of Religious Diversity in a Small Island State**
by MARY DARMANIN (University of Malta)
- **Banal, Benign or Pernicious? Religion and National Identity from the Perspective of Religious Minorities in Greece**
by EFFIE FOKAS (Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, ELIAMEP and Hellenic Observatory, LSE)
- **Authorizing Religious Conversion in Administrative Courts: Law, Rights, and Secular Indeterminacy**
by MONA ORABY (Northwestern University)
- **Religious Diversity in Italy and the Impact on Education: The History of a Failure**
by MARIA CHIARA GIORDA (Università di Milano – Bicocca)
- **Completing the Religious Transition? Catholics and Muslims Navigate Secularism in Democratic Spain**
by AITANA GUIA (European University Institute, Florence)
- **Religion and Migration in Morocco: Governability and Diaspora**
by ANA I. PLANET CONTRERAS (Workshop of International Mediterranean Studies (TEIM), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) and MIGUEL HERNANDO DE LARRAMENDI MARTINEZ (Study Group on Arab and Muslim Societies (GRESAM), Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha)
- **Open forum**
- **Producing Interculturality: Repertoires, Strategies and Spaces**
by NUNO OLIVEIRA (Lisbon University Institute)
- **Shunning Direct Intervention: Explaining the Exceptional Behaviour of the Portuguese church Hierarchy in Morality Politics**
by MADALENA MEYER RESENDE (FCSH-UNL and IPRI-UNL) and ANJA HENNIG (European University Viadrina)

Aims & Scope

NEW DIVERSITIES is an online journal publishing high quality, peer-reviewed articles concerning multiple forms of diversity. It carries on the work of its predecessors **DIVERSITIES** and **The International Journal on Multicultural Societies (IJMS)**. Diversities and the IJMS published policy relevant social science research on multiculturalism, and established itself as a successful electronic journal with a broad audience worldwide. NEW DIVERSITIES continues in this tradition in presenting new research on different kinds of social difference – including ethnicity, religion, language, gender, sexuality, disability, social status and age: how these notions are socially constructed, how they unfold in different contexts and how they are addressed in policy and practice. The journal provides a forum for discussion, debate, refinement of social theory and development of key ideas at the nexus of research and policy. Topics and contributors represent the full range of global regions. Scholars interested in pursuing publication in the journal can write to the editors at [diversities\(at\)mmg.mpg.de](mailto:diversities(at)mmg.mpg.de).

ISSN-Print 2199-8108
ISSN-Internet 2199-8116



Further information:
<http://www.newdiversities.mmg.mpg.de>

Contact:

Max-Planck-Institut zur Erforschung
multireligiöser und multiethnischer
Gesellschaften
Hermann-Föge-Weg 11
D-37073 Göttingen

Tel.: +49 (551) 4956 - 0
info@mmg.mpg.de

<http://www.mmg.mpg.de>



NEW DIVERSITIES

An online journal published by the
Max Planck Institute for the Study of
Religious and Ethnic Diversity

Vol. 17, No. 1, 2015

**Engaging with the Other: Religion,
Identity, and Politics in the
Mediterranean**

Guest Editor:

AVI ASTOR (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) &
MAR GRIERA (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)





Vol. 17, No. 1, 2015

Engaging with the Other: Religion, Identity, and Politics in the Mediterranean

Guest Editors:

AVI ASTOR (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) & MAR GRIERA (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

Engaging with the Other: Religion, Identity, and Politics in the Mediterranean

by AVI ASTOR and MAR GRIERA (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

The Mediterranean has long been a space of encounter between different nations, religions, and cultures. The fusion of national and religious identity in the region has added complexity to current debates regarding the recognition and accommodation of ...

Historical Trajectories and Ambivalences of Turkish Minority Discourse

by MARKUS DRESSLER (Bayreuth University)

This article inquires into the work of modern minority discourse and politics that delineates the boundaries of the Turkish national subject as Turkish-Islamic. It argues that the Turkish minority concept, which is based on imaginaries that justify claims of national and ...

Toleration of Religious Diversity in a Small Island State

by MARY DARMANIN (University of Malta)

This article explores individual and institutional discursive regimes of toleration in Malta, a small new 'host' EU member state with a Roman Catholic ethnic religion. With new immigrant populations, Maltese schools have become reluctant sites of multiculturalism. The state is currently under pressure to move ...

Banal, Benign or Pernicious? Religion and National Identity from the Perspective of Religious Minorities in Greece

by EFFIE FOKAS (Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, ELIAMEP and Hellenic Observatory, LSE)

Intersections between religion and law are increasingly permeating the public sphere. From burqa bans to same-sex marriage, a strong relationship between religion and national identity (whether 'negative', as in the French case, or 'positive' as in the Greek case), ...

Authorizing Religious Conversion in Administrative Courts: Law, Rights, and Secular Indeterminacy

by MONA ORABY (Northwestern University)

The administration of religious difference in modern Egypt suggests more continuity in the state's involvement in personal status affairs over the course of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries than is generally thought to exist. ...

Religious Diversity in Italy and the Impact on Education: The History of a Failure

by MARIA CHIARA GIORDA (Università di Milano – Bicocca)

Cultural diversity and plural religiosity characterize today's Italy. These characterizations are traits of contemporary migration flows, which have put the country among the top receiving destinations in all of Europe since the 2000s. ...

Completing the Religious Transition? Catholics and Muslims Navigate Secularism in Democratic Spain

by AITANA GUIA (European University Institute, Florence)

In Europe, Muslims are often seen as the enemies of secularism and laïcité, the strict separation of church and state pioneered in nineteenth- and early-twentieth-century France. Yet the Spanish experience shows that European Muslims should not prima facie ...

Religion and Migration in Morocco: Governability and Diaspora

by ANA I. PLANET CONTRERAS (Workshop of International Mediterranean Studies (TEIM), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid) and MIGUEL HERNANDO DE LARRAMENDI MARTINEZ (Study Group on Arab and Muslim Societies (GRESAM), Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha)

This article analyses recent Moroccan policies towards its emigrants using Spain as the observation site and the religious arena as the specific focus. Given that the framework for analysing migration and transnationalism has become progressively more complex, ...

Open forum

Producing Interculturality: Repertoires, Strategies and Spaces

by NUNO OLIVEIRA (Lisbon University Institute)

Issues of cultural diversity governance have been on the agenda with regard to urban paradigms that seek to accommodate diversity driven by a globalized world. These new urban landscapes feature particular conditions of interaction involving cross-cultural social competences and have lately been analysed according to an "ethics of encounter". ...

Shunning Direct Intervention: Explaining the Exceptional Behaviour of the Portuguese church Hierarchy in Morality Politics

by MADALENA MEYER RESENDE (FCSH-UNL and IPRI-UNL) and ANJA HENNIG (European University Viadrina)

Why are the Catholic churches in most European countries politically active in relevant morality policy issues while the Portuguese hierarchy has remained reserved during mobilizing debates such as abortion and same-sex marriage, whose laws' recent changes go against Catholic beliefs? ...