

Einladung zum GASTVORTRAG

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**Vietnam state policy regarding religious affairs since 1990: Issues and perspectives**

Do., 21. 6. 2018, 18.30 Uhr s. t., Madonnensaal (Karl-Rahner-Platz 3)

Before 1990 Vietnam was under strong influence of the communist parties of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic China and carried out a so-called antagonist state policy regarding religious affairs. The collapse of the communist bloc brought a turn of this policy: For the first time, the CPV acknowledged the existence of religion as a fact. Religious organizations such as the Buddhist Association, the Catholic Church and many Protestant branches have equal rights before the state, at least in official party documents. The relations between Vietnam and the Holy See also improved. But beyond some achievements, there are still a lot of controversies, chiefly with Christian churches, especially about the restitution of real estate. Other issues concern the increasing role of the churches in the public sphere, education, medicine, etc. Recently the situation has worsened somewhat when some issues about the rule of law and civil society emerged. Will collaboration or rather conflict mark the future in Vietnam?



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