

# Advisory Board

The Postsecular Conflicts Research Group develops out of the ERC Starting Grant Project POSEC (2016-2022). The ERC Starting Grant program is designed to enable young researchers to start their own research group and grow academically and professionally. To achieve these aims, it is common that Starting Grants establish an Advisory Board of experienced academics, which help the Principal Investigator with the task of setting up a research group and agenda.

POSEC's Advisory Board is made up of experts on Russia and Russian Orthodoxy, on religion in international politics, and on political and social theories of religion & politics and postsecularity.

## Alexander Agadjanian



Born in Moscow, graduated from the Moscow State University in 1981. Received doctoral degree in modern history at the Institute of Oriental Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow. Taught at the religious studies department of Arizona State University until 2002, then until now - at the Center for the Study of Religion, Russian State University for Humanities, Moscow; and the Higher School of Economics, Moscow.

Teaching courses include: religions in the modern world; religions of Asia (Buddhism); religions in Soviet and post-Soviet Russia; religions in the Caucasus. Currently, the main area of interests and research is religious developments in the post-Soviet Russia and Eurasia. Co-editor of the Russian language academic quarterly 'State, Religion and Church in Russia and Worldwide.' Relevant publications: *Religion, Nation and Democracy in the South Caucasus* (co-edited, Routledge 2015); *Turns of Faith, Search of Meaning: Orthodox Christianity and Post-Soviet Experience* (Peter Lang, 2014).

## Veit Bader

Veit Bader is now Emeritus Professor of Sociology (Department of Political and Socio-cultural Sciences) and of Social and Political Philosophy (Department of Philosophy) at the University of Amsterdam and a member of IMES (Institute of Migration and Ethnic Studies). He was a workpackage leader and leader of the Dutch teams in three European FP6 and FP7 projects: EUROSPHERE (Diversity and the European Public Sphere, 2007 - 2012), RELIGARE (Religious Diversity and Models of Secularism in Europe 2009 - 2013) and ACCEPT (Tolerance, Pluralism and Cohesion 2009 - 2013).



He has written on a wide range of issues in critical social theory; social inequalities and collective action; democracy and the rule of law (particularly in the EU); racism, ethnicity and citizenship; ethics of migration and incorporation of minorities; global justice; governance of religious diversity. See list of publications: [www.uva.nl/profiel/v.m.bader](http://www.uva.nl/profiel/v.m.bader).

## Clifford Bob



Clifford Bob studies human rights, globalization, and transnational networks. His book, *The Global Right Wing and the Clash of World Politics* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) examined networks of conservative organizations seeking to promote various policies in international and national institutions. A particular focus was the “traditional families” network, spanning conservative Protestant, Catholic, and Muslim organizations, as they fought against proponents of gay rights and same-sex marriage.

His 2005 book, *The Marketing of Rebellion: Insurgents, Media, and International Activism* (Cambridge), won the International Studies Association Best Book Award and other prizes. He edited *The International Struggle for New Human*

*Rights* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2009) and has written for political science, law, and policy journals. His opinion articles have appeared in newspapers such as the *International Herald Tribune*, *Los Angeles Times*, *South China Morning Post*, *Sidney Morning Herald*, *San Francisco Examiner*, and *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. Dr. Bob holds a Ph.D. from MIT, a J.D. from NYU, and a B.A. magna cum laude in social studies from Harvard.

## Thomas Bremer

Dr. theol., Univ.-Prof for Ecumenism and Peace Research at the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Münster . Born in 1957, studied Catholic Theology, Slavic and Classical Philology in Munich and Belgrade.

1985-1995 research assistant at the (former) Catholic Ecumenical Institute of the University of Münster, 1990 PhD with a thesis on the ecclesiology in the Serbian Orthodox Church, from 1996 to 1999 Managing Director of the German Society for Eastern European Studies (Berlin), end of summer semester 1999 appeal to Münster. 2002-2003 and 2005-2006 Vice Dean, 2003-2005 Dean of the Faculty of Catholic Theology. 2011/2012 Fellow at the Imre Kertész College at Jena University.



## Alessandro Ferrara



Alessandro Ferrara is Professor of Political Philosophy and Director of the *Center for the Study of Religions and Political Institutions in Post-Secular Society* (CSPS) at the University of Rome “Tor Vergata” and former President of the Italian Association for Political Philosophy.

Recently he has published *The Democratic Horizon. Hyperpluralism and the Renewal of Political Liberalism* (Cambridge UP, 2014). He is also the author of *The Force of the Example. Explorations in the Paradigm of Judgment* (Columbia UP, 2008); of *Justice and Judgment* (Sage, 1999), and of *Reflective Authenticity* (Routledge, 1998). He serves

as editorial consultant on the board of a number of journals including *Constellations*, *Philosophy and Social Criticism* and *The European Journal of Philosophy*, and co-edits the series *Philosophy & Politics – Critical Explorations* at Springer. He serves as co-director of the yearly Conference *Philosophy and Social Science*, held in Prague under the aegis of the Czech Academy of Science, and as member of the advisory board of the Foundation Reset-Dialogues on Civilization.

## Ingeborg Gabriel

Professor of Christian Social Ethics at the Department of Systematic Theology and Ethics, former head of the Institut of Social Ethics of the Catholic Theological Faculty of the University of Vienna.

Ingeborg Gabriel studied Theology at the Catholic Theological Faculty in Vienna, History and German (scholarship of the American Field Service in Long Beach, CA), Business Studies and Economics (Vienna) and did her post-graduate studies in international relations at the Diplomatic Academy (Vienna). She was a freelancer for ORF in 1980,1981 and an international officer at the United Nations (UNDP) in New York (Officer of Human Resouerces); Katmandu, Nepal (in charge of the relief system) and Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia VR (Vice-Resident Representative).



## Sergej Horuzhy (1941-2020)



In Memoriam Sergey Horujy

## Elena Namli

Professor of Ethics at the Faculty of Theology and one of the three Research Directors at UCRS Uppsala Centre for Russian and Eurasian Studies (both at Uppsala University).

I teach Ethics at the Faculty of Theology and supervise several doctoral projects (in Ethics). At UCRS Uppsala Centre for Russian and Eurasian Studies I am leading a very ambitious team of researchers who focus on processes that characterize Russia's new social and cultural identity (Identity Formation) and have published extensively in prominent international journals.



My latest monograph is entitled “Human Rights as Ethics, Politics, and Law” (Acta Universitatis Upsaliensis, Uppsala 2014). This study offers a critical approach to the connections between the law, politics, and morality as they figure in human rights discourse.

My current project is entitled Critical normativity in law, ethics, and politics. Its aim is to offer an analysis of the dialectics of the concepts of law, morality, and politics in order to scrutinize and to some extent redefine the controversy between legal positivism and natural law. The main research question is how legal and moral normativity is/should be understood and how these understandings are related to different concepts and understandings of politics.

My other project Social Ethics and the Russian Orthodox Tradition examines Russian Orthodox Church's involvement in Russian politics and aims to suggest a critical analysis from a theological perspective.

## Aristotle Papanikolaou



Professor of Theology and the Archbishop Demetrios Chair in Orthodox Theology and Culture. He is Co-Director of the Orthodox Christian Studies Center at Fordham University, and Senior Fellow at the Emory University Center for the Study of Law and Religion. In 2012, he received the Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in the Humanities. He was born/raised in Chicago, Illinois, and he enjoys Russian literature, Byzantine and Greek music, and is a bit of a foodie.

Since founding the Orthodox Christian Studies Center with George Demacopoulos in 2012, he has dedicated his time to building the Center's endowment and starting a host of globally-recognized initiatives such as the National Endowment for the Humanities Matching Challenge Grant, which funds two annual research fellowships in Orthodox Studies at Fordham. Beginning in 2017, he will co-launch a new international and interdisciplinary journal in Orthodox Christian Studies.

Among other books and articles, he has published *The Mystical as Political: Democracy and Non-Radical Orthodoxy*

Olivier Roy (1949) is currently joint-chair at the RSCAS and SPS department of the EUI. Previously he has been senior researcher at the French CNRS and Professor at the EHESS (Paris). He headed the OSCE's Mission for Tajikistan (1993-94) and was a Consultant for the UN Office of the Coordinator for Afghanistan (1988). He has been heading the ERC funded project "ReligioWest" since 2011. His field works include Political Islam, Middle East, Islam in the West and comparative religions.

## Olivier Roy





Prof. Roy received an “Agrégation de Philosophie” (1972) and a Ph.D. in Political Sciences. In 2008-2009 he has been a visiting Professor at Berkeley University.

He is the author, among other books, of “Globalized Islam” (Columbia University Press), 2004, and “Holy Ignorance” (Oxford UP), 2010. His last book is “En Quête de l'Orient perdu” (Seuil 2014).

## Alan Scott



Alan Scott is Professor of Sociology at the University of Innsbruck and Vice President (for the humanities and social sciences) of the Austrian Science Fund (FWF). He has taught and researched at universities in the UK, France (as Vincent Wright Chair at Sciences Po, Paris in 2009) and Australia (UNE, NSW, 2010-13).

His research areas are political sociology, social theory and Organisation Studies. He has published in leading journals, such as Economy and Society, BJS, International Journal of Urban and Regional Research (IJURR), Revue Française de Sociologie and the Journal of Classical Sociology and is co-editor of the Wiley-Blackwell Companion to Political Sociology (2011).

## Arpad Szakolczai

Professor of Sociology, University College Cork, Ireland.

His work focuses on social theory, historical sociology and political anthropology, and in particular on historically and anthropologically oriented social theory.

Its focus is to reassess the links between Europe, modernity, and the processes of globalization, which he is analyzing using concepts developed by anthropologists and focusing on the long-term historical conditions and effects of religious developments, situated broadly within the approach of Max Weber, but going substantially beyond by



incorporating the sociology of the Renaissance, and extending to the role of cultural processes like the re-birth of theatre (opposed strongly both by the medieval Church and Platonic philosophy) in the rise of the modern world.