



**Forschungsschwerpunkt
„Kulturelle Begegnungen – Kulturelle Konflikte“**

Raymund Schwager – Innsbrucker Religionspolitologische Vorlesung

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Saving Scapegoats, Saving Strangers, and Saving Ourselves: Mimetic Theory and the Study of International Relations

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Theologische Fakultät, Universität Innsbruck
Karl-Rahner-Platz 1, Hörsaal 1

Mimetic theory's vision means it does not divide the world between zones of peace and zones of violence or turmoil. It links questions about why there is violence between states or violence within states to questions about why there is peace within states and why there is peace between them. The reason is that mimetic theory is concerned with how the social dynamics – mimetic rivalry and the scapegoat mechanism, which produce social order or disorder within states is also integrally related to the social dynamics that produce international order or disorder between them. In other words, mimetic theory offers a holistic and global approach to the study of culture, religion, and violence in the one world we all live.

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