



THE ROLE OF RELIGION IN CONSTITUTIONAL IDENTITY

Dodgson Room | Christ Church | University of Oxford
15 – 16 July 2026

Wednesday, 15 July

12:30 – 13:30 LUNCH | Christ Church Dining Hall, move to Dodgson Room

13:45 – 14:00 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Brett G. Scharffs, Rex E. Lee Chair and Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University

Elizabeth A. Clark, Associate Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies

Gideon Sapir, Professor, Faculty of Law, Bar-Ilan University

14:00 – 16:00 SESSION I

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Founding Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies; President, G20 Interfaith Forum

Religion's Indirect Impact on Constitutional Structures

Discussant: **Brett G. Scharffs**

Michel Rosenfeld, University Professor of Law and Comparative Democracy, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University

Constitutional Justice for Minority Religions in Liberal Secular Democracies

Discussant: **Gideon Sapir**

David Kenny, Professor in Law and Fellow, Trinity College Dublin

The Varieties of Religious Experience – A Philosophically Pragmatic Account of Church-State Constitutional Arrangements

Discussant: **András Sajó**

16:00 – 16:15 REFRESHMENT BREAK

16:15 – 18:15 SESSION II

Gideon Sapir

Is It Legitimate to Prefer a Certain Religion/Religious Stream?

Discussant: **Michel Rosenfeld**

Renáta Uitz, Professor of Law and Government, Department of Law and Criminology, Royal Holloway, University of London

András Sajó, Professor Emeritus, Central European University

Post-(i)liberal Reflections on the Concept of Constitutional Secularism

Discussant: **W. Cole Durham, Jr.**

Dorjana Bojanovska Popovska, Postdoctoral Researcher, Democracy Institute, Central European University

Redefining the Boundaries of Religious Freedom: Reversed Secularization and the Accumulation of State Power

Discussant: **Rodrigo Vitorino Souza Alves**

19:30 – 21:00 **GROUP DINNER** | [Dishoom Permit Room Oxford](#)
[North Bailey House, New Inn Hall Street, Oxford OX1 2RP](#)

Thursday, 16 July

07:30 – 09:00 **BREAKFAST** | Christ Church Dining Hall (for 117 St Aldates guests)

10:15 – 12:15 **SESSION III**

Elizabeth A. Clark

International Human Rights Norms, de Minimis Discrimination, and National Constitutional Identity

Discussant: **Renáta Uitz**

Balázs Schanda, Professor, Pázmány Péter Catholic University

Hungary – A System of Established Religion(s)? Endorsement of Christian Legacy and/or Equal Freedom for All

Discussant: **Daniela Kalkandjieva**

Rodrigo Vitorino Souza Alves, Professor of Law, Federal University of Uberlândia

Ivo Pereira da Silva, Associate Professor of History, Federal University of Pará

Majority Religion, Constitutional Identity, and Religious Freedom: The Brazilian Historical and Constitutional Experience

Discussants: **Faizan Mustafa, Piotr Szymaniec**

12:30 – 13:45 **LUNCH** | Christ Church Dining Hall

14:00 – 16:00 **SESSION IV**

Piotr Szymaniec, Professor, Angelus Silesius University of Applied Sciences in Wałbrzych

Contemporary Concepts of Religious Freedom and the Idea of Established Church

Discussant: **Dorjana Bojanovska Popovska**

Daniela Kalkandjieva, Researcher, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski

The Respect of Religious Freedom of Minority Faiths in Orthodoxy-Dominated Bulgaria

Discussant: **Tatiana Kopaleishvili**

Dicky Sofjan, Associate Professor, Inter-religious Studies Program, Graduate School of Universitas Gadjah Mada

Indonesia's Constitutional Identity and Magnement of Religious Diversity

Discussant: **Balázs Schanda**

16:00 – 16:15 **REFRESHMENT BREAK**

16:15 – 18:15 SESSION V

Dmytro Vovk, Visiting Associate Professor, Cardozo School of Law; Distinguished Fellow,
New York School of Law

*From Religious Neutrality to Cooperation with Religion(s): Ukraine's Religion-State Relations
in Times of the War*

Discussant: *Elizabeth A. Clark*

Archil Metreveli, Associate Professor of Law, University of Georgia

Tatiana Kopaleishvili, Visiting Associate Professor, ETF Leuven

State and Church in Georgia: Religion and Constitutional Identity

Discussant: *Dmytro Vovk*

Faizan Mustafa, Vice Chancellor/President, Chanakaya National Law University

*De Jure Rights and de Facto Subordination: Assessing Minority Safeguards Within
an Emerging Hindu Ethno-Democracy in India*

Discussants: *Dicky Sofjan, Archil Metreveli*

18:15 – 18:30 WRAPPING UP AND LOOKING AHEAD

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Law**
Bar-Ilan University

