

Call for papers – Conference:

Mystical Theology and Muslim-Christian Dialogue

The “Lucian Blaga” University of Sibiu (LBUS) announces the **Conference** entitled *Mystical Theology and Muslim-Christian Dialogue* that will take place on **8-11 September 2022**. The event is organized by the Department of History, Patrimony and Protestant Theology of LBUS in cooperation with Sophia University Institute Florence (Italy) and Institute of Systematic Theology, University of Innsbruck (Austria).

The aim of this conference is to bring together theologians, religious studies scholars or spirituality scholars and historians, Christian and Muslim, to discuss and map out the implications – both opportunities and limits – of the mystical theology on the inter-religious dialogue.

Muslim-Christian dialogue is a crucial issue in the contemporary world. Possible means for dialogue must be pursued on many levels, but it can be successful only by taking religious experiences seriously in their claim to truth. One form of religious expression that combines a strong connection to one’s own tradition with genuine openness to dialogue is mysticism. Mystical theology, which is rooted in the spiritual experience and relatively free from a specific theology of political power, could be a bridge of dialogue between Christianity and Islam, seeking for a common ground and shared values. It is open also to the possibility of reading the other’s traditions beyond apologetics or polemics, without avoiding dissension themes in the Islamic-Christian dialogue. The experiences and the writings of classical and modern mystics, both Muslim and Christian could be possible bridges for the Christian-Islamic dialogue. The conference seeks to engage researchers to reflect upon aspects, examples and systematic elaborations regarding mystical theology, analysing their potential for that dialogue.

Therefore, we welcome proposals for papers aiming to explore domains that include, but are not limited to: Mystical Christian Theology, Mystical Muslim Theology, Comparative Mystical Theology, Muslim-Christian Dialogue, Mystical Imaginary and Mystical Approach to the Theology of Religions.

For the authors of accepted papers, conference costs (including housing and meals) are supported by the organizer.

Confirmed Speakers:

Prof. Dr. Piero Coda (Loppiano/Florence), Sheikh Dr. Mohammad Ali Shomali (London), Prof. Dr. Margareta Gruber OSF (Vallendar), Dr. Bogdan Tătaru-Cazaban (Bucharest), Dr. Adnane Mokrani (Palermo), Prof. Dr. Roman Siebenrock (Innsbruck), Prof. Dr. Stefan Tobler (Sibiu).

Guide for Authors:

The deadline to submit abstracts is 31 May 2022. Proposals are accepted in English and Italian. During the presentations English-Italian translations will be available.

For further information and to submit proposals, please contact: mystdial@ecum.ro

On the same topic, a special issue of the journal *Religions* will be published this year (See: <https://mystdial.ecum.ro/publicatii/>)