

Registration, Religious Autonomy and Freedom of Religion or Belief
A Conference of Experts

June 1-2, 2012

Sponsored by the
International Center for Law and Religion Studies at
J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States,
and
The Department of Legal Studies,
Central European University, Hungary

Conference Program

Thursday, May 31

7:30 PM **Welcome Dinner**
Strudel House
Október 6. street 22.
1051 Budapest

Friday, June 1 **Central European University, Auditorium**

9 AM **Session I: Regional Concerns with Registration and Religious Autonomy**

Welcome and Chair:
Renata Uitz, Professor, Department of Legal Studies, Central European University, Hungary

Robert-Jan Uhl, Adviser, Freedom of Religion or Belief, OSCE Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Tolerance and Non-Discrimination Department
“Outline of the prospective ODIHR/Venice Commission Guidelines on the Rights and Freedoms of Religious or Belief Communities”

Laurentiu Hadirca, Legislative Support Officer, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
“Recent Trends in Registration Laws with the OSCE: Perspectives from the ODIHR”

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States
“The Importance of OSCE Commitments Regarding Religious Autonomy and Access to Legal Entity Status”

10:30 AM **Break**

11 AM

Session II: Keynote Address

Chair:

Renata Uitz, Professor, Department of Legal Studies, Central European University, Hungary

Heiner Bielefeldt, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief

“The Role of the State in ‘Recognizing’ Religious Communities: Critical Remarks from the Perspective of Freedom of Religion or Belief”

12 Noon-1 PM

Lunch

1 PM-2:30

Session III: Comparative Reflections on Registration Issues: West European and American Experience

Chair: Wolfgang Wieshaider

Ingvill T. Plesner, Research Fellow, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, Norway

“Scandinavian Experience with Both Registration and Religious Autonomy”

Jeroen Temperman, Assistant Professor, Public International Law, Department of International Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Editor-in-Chief of *Religion and Human Rights*

W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States

“American Law of Religious Associations”

2:30-3:00

Break

3:00-5:00

Session IV: Religious Registration and Religious Autonomy: Panel Discussion on Bosnia as a Case Study

Chair: Jeroen Temperman

Ahmed Žilić, Attorney at Law, Bosnia and Herzegovina

“The Framing and Adoption of the Bosnian Religion Law”

Jusuf Halilagić, Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Bosnia and Herzegovina

“Special Freedom of Religion or Belief Issues in Bosnia”

Fazila Musić, Deputy Minister of Justice, Ministry of Justice, Bosnia and Herzegovina

“Issues in Implementation of the Bosnian Religion Law”

Slavka Alagić, Department Head, Ministry of Justice, Bosnia and Herzegovina

“Practical issues in Enforcement”

Marijana Kandić (Interpreter)

7 PM

Dinner
Tigris Restaurant
Mérleg u. 10
1051 Budapest

Saturday, June 2

9 AM

Session V: Registration and Religious Autonomy: the Hungarian Situation

Moderator: Renáta Uitz, Professor, Department of Legal Studies, Central European University, Hungary

Tamás Lukács, Member of Parliament, Chair of the Committee for Human Rights, Minorities, Civil and Religious Affairs (tbc.)

Balázs Schanda, Dean, Faculty of Law and Political Sciences, Pázmány Péter Catholic University, Hungary (tbc.)

Péter Hack, Professor of Law, ELTE University, Hungary

Júlia Mink, John Wesley Theological College, Hungary

Gábor Schweitzer, Institute for Legal Studies, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

11 AM

Break

11:30 AM

Session VI: Central European and Eurasian Experience: Challenges and Good Practices

Chair: S. David Colton

Roman Podoprigora, Professor of Law, Kazakhstan
“Registration and Religious Autonomy in Central Asia”

Romanița Iordache, Independent Expert, European Network of Legal experts in the Non-discrimination Field.; Senior Independent Expert, Fundamental Rights Agency – FRALEX
“Romania: Old Limitations and New Challenges”

Wolfgang Wieshaider, Assistant Professor, Institut für Rechtsphilosophie, Religions- und Kulturrecht, Rechtswissenschaftliche Fakultät der Universität Wien, Austria
“More Fine Tuning on Recent Challenges to Austrian Law Governing the Registration of Religious Communities”

1 PM

Lunch

2 PM

Session VII: Summary Session, Recommendations

Chair:

Prof. W. Cole Durham, Jr., Susa Young Gates University Professor of Law and Director, International Center for Law and Religion Studies, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, United States

3 PM

Conclusion

7 PM

Dinner

‘Pomodoro Restaurant’
Arany Janos street 9
1051 Budapest