



Berlin University Alliance



ARAB-GERMAN YOUNG ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES



THE BEIRUT FORUM



Surveillance and Religion: Laws and Practices
Invitation to an online workshop
2nd November 2021, 2-4:30 pm CET

The *Arab-German Young Academy of Sciences and Humanities (AGYA)*, the Humboldt University Berlin, *Integrated Research Institute Law & Society (LSI)* at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, *Co²libri – Conceptual Collaboration: Living Borderless Research Interaction* (Berlin University Alliance), and the Beirut School for Critical Security Studies (BCSS) are inviting scholars from West Asia, Northern Africa and Europe to concertedly collect ideas on the continuities and travelling of techniques and technologies regarding the surveillance of religion and religious communities and individuals.

Both in European states as well as in the states of West Asia and Northern Africa, religion – or, more precisely, the “religious other” – is thoroughly surveilled. By combining different academic perspectives on the implicit and explicit relationship between law, political discourse and social practices, we aim to gain insights into both the construction of ‘the religious other’ through normative and non-formal directives and measures as well as the designing and implementation of surveillance measures targeted at religious groups and individuals by national state apparatuses and civil society organizations. In doing so, we consider surveillance of religion to be a transnational phenomenon and in particular seek to develop an analytical framework for illuminating how theories, technologies and techniques of surveilling religions travel back and forth between the neighboring regions of West Asia, Northern Africa and Europe.

While highlighting the universality of surveillance technologies and techniques, we plan to discuss the use and abuse of religion as securitized concept and its particular impact on local utilizations and normative repercussions in Western Europe, West Asia and North Africa based on the particular research contexts of all participants.

For registration please contact Khader Abualhayjaa: Khader.abualhayjaa@gmail.com



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“Surveillance and Religion: Laws and Practices”, November 2nd 2021, 2pm-4:30 pm Central European Time (CET)

**Zoom-Meeting <https://hu-berlin.zoom.us/j/64591652653>;
Meeting-ID: 645 9165 2653**

Workshop Programme

Introduction and Opening (2:00pm-2:15pm)

Dr. Nahed Samour (IRI Law & Society, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

Prof. Seteney Shami (the Arab Council of Social Science (ACSS))

Prof. Omar Dahi (Hampshire College, PERI Umass Amherst, & Beirut School for Critical Security Studies)

Presentations I (2:15pm-2:45pm)

Prof. Abdullah Al-Arian (Georgetown University, Qatar):

“Securitized Subjects: American Muslims and the U.S. War on Terror”

Dr. Salim Hmimnat (Institute of African Studies (IEA) Mohammed V University, Rabat): **“The Imam as an Agent of Control and Surveillance: Evidence from Morocco”**

Commentary: 2:45-2:55

Dr. Hamza Esmili (Katholieke Universiteit (KU) Leuven)

Moderated Discussion 2:55-3:15

Presentations II 3:15-3:45

Dr Hannah Tzuberi (Free University Berlin): **“The Embrace of the Figure of the Jew/Ejecting the Arab”**

Prof. Hanna Pfeifer (Goethe-Universität - Frankfurt am Main):

“Secular Self-Imaginary and the Construction of the Islamist Other in International Relations”

Commentary: 3:45-3:55

Prof. Christine Graebisch (Fachhochschule Dortmund - University of Applied Sciences and Art) **“The construction of the “crimmigrant (religious) other” in German law”**

Moderated Discussion 3:55-4:15

Conclusive Remarks 4:15-4:30