

International conference on

Religions and Political Values

Date: 26-28 November 2014

Venue: Lebanese American University – Byblos- Lebanon

*(Conference in English and Arabic - Simultaneous translation is provided)*

Organized by

Adyan Foundation

*In partnership with*

The Lebanese American University

Konrad Adenauer Stiftung

Institute of Missiology – Missio

Religions for Peace-MENA council

Catholic Relief Services

**Program**

Wednesday 26 November (5:00-7:00)

Public Official Opening

(Hilton Hotel - Beirut)

5:00 Welcoming guests

5:30 Lebanese National Anthem

**Welcome address by the Conference Coordinator**

Dr. Nayla Tabbara, Director of the Cross-Cultural Studies Department, Adyan Foundation

**Address of the Lebanese American University**

Dr. Georges Najjar, Provost

**Address of Konrad Adenauer Stiftung**

Mr. Peter Rimmele, Resident Representative in Lebanon

**Address of Religions for Peace**

Dr. William Vendley, Secretary General

**Ceremony of Presentation of Adyan’s 2014 Spiritual Solidarity Award**

**to departed Sayyid Hani Fahs and HE Shaykh Abdullah Bin Bayyah**

**Address of Adyan Foundation**

Prof. Fadi Daou, Chairperson

**Address of the Conference Guest Speaker**

His Eminence Cardinal Mar Bechara Boutros al Raï, Maronite Patriarch of Antioch and all the East

*Program presented by Ms. Tania Awad Ghorra, Media Professional*

**Cocktail Reception**

Thursday 27 November

(LAU – Byblos)

Panel 1: 9:00- 11:00

**Ethics between religion and politics**

**Panel Chair: Dr. Nayla Tabbara**

Dr. Stefan Friedrich (Germany): *Plural secular societies and value-based politics*

Dr. Nayla Abi Nader (Lebanon): *“Islam, Ethics and Politics”: a reading of Mohammad Arkoun’s thought*

Dr. Theo Brinkel (Netherlands): *The relevance of faith-inspired politics for democracy and justice*

Dr. Wajiha al Baharna (Bahrain): *Religion and politics, two sides of the same coin: a values-based approach*

Panel 2: 11:30-1:30

**Contemporary challenges for religion and political values**

**Panel Chair: Dr. Marwan Rowayheb**

Prof. Joseph Maalouf (Lebanon): *No political continuation in the Arab world without a minimum of ethical and religious understanding: an approach through Hans Kung and Amin Maalouf*

Prof. Tayyib Tizini (Syria): *Does the unification of the world go through ISIS?*

Prof. Alicia Cabezudo (Argentina/Spain): *Religions and Political Values: a* *Necessary Dialogue in**Education*

Dr. Makram Ouaiss (Lebanon): *When Official Tracks Fail, can Non-Official Tracks Reconcile Religion and Politics in Post-Conflict Countries? The Case of Lebanon*

Panel 3: 3:00-5:30

**The relation between religion and politics   
as a values reshaping dynamic**

**Panel Chair: Prof. Fadi Daou**

Prof. Wajih Kanso (Lebanon): *Role of politics in the formation of Religious Values*

Dr. Ali Khalife (Lebanon): *Political values from the point of view of Islam and Christianity*

Prof. Abdel Jabbar al Rifai (Iraq): *What State without spiritual life and ethical values?*

Dr. Afag Mohammad Sadeq (Sudan): *The political role of sufi groups: the example of Sudan*

Friday 28 November 2014

(LAU – Byblos)

Panel 4 – 9:00- 11:00

**Values questioning political islam**

**Panel Chair: Dr. Mohammad Sammak**

Mr. Qassem Kassir (Lebanon): *Islamist movements and political values: the double standards between theory and practice in regards to democracy and good governance*

Dr. Michael Driessen (US-Italy): *Comparing Post-Secularism and Post-Islamism in Catholic and Muslim Contexts*

Shaykh Muhammad Abu Zayd (Lebanon): *Religion and power in the Syrian context: the example of Marwan Hadid and Jawdat Said*

Dr. Sami Baroudi (Lebanon): *Moderate Sunni Islam and International Relations: The discourses of two leading contemporary Islamic thinkers (Qaradawi and Zuhaili)*

Group photo

Panel 5 -11:30-1:30

**Political values for inclusive citizenship**

**Panel chair: Prof. Harald Suermann**

Revd. Canon Alistair MacDonald Radcliff (UK): *Can citizenship be a political value for social cohesion and interfaith harmony?*

Prof. Patrice Brodeur (Canada-Austria): *Dialogue as a global political value*

Fr. Dr. Bassem Rai (Lebanon): *Religious Freedom and the freedom of religion*

Mr. Georges Fahmi (Egypt)

Panel 6 -3:00-4:30

**Spiritual values for politics of peace**

**Panel Chair: Dr. William Vendley**

Prof. Hadi Adanali (Turkey): *Empathy as a Religious and Political Value*

Dr. Federico di Leo (Italy): *Confidence, service and dialogue: Religion and political issues*

Mr. Ali Gohar (Pakistan): *The non-violent movement of the servants of God under the Leadership of Bacha Khan (1928-40) (TBC)*

Dr. Mohammad Bechari (Morocco/France*) (TBC)*

Evaluations and Conclusions Panel:

5:00-6:00

Conclusive comments

Prof. Harald Suermann- Missio

Dr. Nayla Tabbara- Conference Coordinator- Adyan