

**Call for COST Action “Connecting  
Theory and Practical Issues of Migration and Religious Diversity” (COREnet)  
Training School applications**

**Researching Migration and Religious Diversity: Theories,  
Methods and Practices**

**Date: 29 June – 3 July 2022**

**Place: Kaunas, Lithuania**

This COREnet training school aims to provide early career researchers (PhDs, postdocs and researchers up to 40 years old) with the opportunity to deepen their understanding of migration and religious diversity field and highlight research and practice - based knowledge from international trainers in order to present best practice to international trainees and to increase the knowledge in the field as well as to learn how to apply it in preparation of practice oriented research.

COREnet training school will aim at studying theories, methods and practical issues arising during the research into migration and religious diversity. During the COREnet training schools its participants will be working on their individual practice oriented research project.

Final evaluation of the participants will be provided by school teachers after they submit the critical reflection of their own research project from the perspective of practice and ethics relevance.

Participants of the training school will receive a certificate of attendance 3 ECTS worth.

### **Who can attend?**

- PhD students and postdocs in the area of the study of religion and migration.
- Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI) < 40 years old starting their research activities in the field of religion and migration.

There will be a pre-selection of applicants with the aim of reaching background balance (e.g. sociology, anthropology, study of religions, theology, political sciences, etc.), gender balance, country and institutional spread.

**Venue:** Vytautas Magnus University, Putvinskio str. 23, Kaunas, Lithuania.

**Organizers:** COST action COREnet and Vytautas Magnus University

### **Trainers and invited speakers**

- Prof. Halina Grzymala-Moszczyńska

- Prof. Tuomas Martikainen
- Prof. Milda Ališauskienė
- Prof. Annette Leis-Peters
- Prof. Mar Grier
- Prof. Adam Dinham
- Dr. Aleksandar Nacev
- Dr. Karolis Žibas
- Dr. Olena Panych

## Applications

To apply, please provide:

- a cover letter with an expression of interest and a paragraph describing the relevant scientific activities with this Training School;
- a Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- a research project description up to 3 pages length.

All applications should be submitted via email [corenet@vdu.lt](mailto:corenet@vdu.lt) no later than May 2, 2022. Successful applicants will be contacted directly by email on May 16, 2022.

Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of following criteria:

- Early Career Investigators (ECIs) in the area of migration and religious diversity
- Relevance of applicants' studies and research experience to the topics of the workshop
- Balanced distribution of educational and geographical background among participants
- Quality and clarity of research project description

Applicants eligible to be reimbursed can be from all COST Countries.

List of COST countries: [http://www.cost.eu/about\\_cost/cost\\_countries](http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/cost_countries)

Number of applicants to be reimbursed: 15

Number of participants: 25

## Funding

Successful applicant will receive a financial support grant of 800 EUR:

- Travel Grant: 300 EUR
- Accommodation and meals: 162 EUR per day (4 days covered)

The Grant will be provided after the completion of the training school through the e-COST system <https://e-services.cost.eu>.

Travel and accommodation must be arranged by each participant after the receipt of the acceptance email and the official e-COST invitation.

## Contacts

- Training School scientific coordinator: prof. dr. Milda Ališauskienė: email: [milda.alisauskiene@vdu.lt](mailto:milda.alisauskiene@vdu.lt)
- Training School communication officer: dr. Gintare Poce, email: [gintare.poce@vdu.lt](mailto:gintare.poce@vdu.lt)
- Training School administratorė: Daiva Vilčinskienė, email: [daiva.vilcinskiene@vdu.lt](mailto:daiva.vilcinskiene@vdu.lt)

## Programme outline

### Day 1, Wednesday, Jun 29, 2022

14.00 - 15.00	Introduction of participants and lecturers, PhD school schedule and content.	
15.00 - 16.00	Interactive discussion. Migration and religious diversity. Main concepts and ideas. Participants - all teachers.	
16.10 - 18.30	Introduction of the participants' projects.	
19.00 - 21.00	Welcome social event	

### Day 2, Thursday, Jun 30, 2022

10.00 - 11.30	Migration and religious diversity. Theoretical insights and challenges. Tuomas Martikainen	
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee break	
11.45 - 13.15	Migration and religious diversity in Lithuania and Northern Europe. dr. Karolis Žibas, UN	
13.15 - 14.15	Lunch break	
14.15 - 15.45	Discussion on the future of research on migration and religious diversity.	

15.45 - 16.00	Coffee break	
16.00 - 17.30	Feedback on the participant's projects.	

**Day 3, Friday, Jul 1, 2022**

10.00 - 11.30	Methodological challenges for studying religious diversity and migration. Maria del Mar Grier	
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee break	
11.45 - 13.15	Ethical issues of the studies of religious diversity and migration. Halina Grzymala-Mosczyńska	
13.15 - 14.15	Lunch break	
14.15 - 18.00	Visit to Jonavos social service center and discussion with officers helping to integrate refugees and migrants to Lithuania.	
18.00	Picnic	

**Day 4, Saturday, Jul 2, 2022**

10.00 - 11.30	Practice oriented research projects. Annette Leis-Peters, Milda Ališauskienė.	
11.30 - 11.45	Coffee break	
11.45 - 13.15	Religious diversity, war and migration in Ukraine. Olena Panych.	
13.15 - 14.15	Lunch break	
14.15 - 16.15	Reconsidering participants' projects.	
16.15 - 16.30	Coffee break	
16.30 - 17.30	Finalizing discussion and work to be done.	

**Day 5, Sunday, Jul 3, 2022**

10.00 - 12.00	Guided tour in Kaunas, the city of religious diversity	
12.00	Farewell	

## Teachers:

**Dr. Halina Grzymala-Mosczyńska** is full professor of psychology at Jagiellonian university and Jesuit University Ignatianum in Cracow, Poland where she serves as a Chair of Dept of psychology of religion and spirituality. Her research and teaching areas: psychology of migration, psychology of religion and spirituality. She is recipient of International awards: Fulbright scholarship, Donner Institute scholarship, Kościuszko Foundation scholarship. Currently she serves as a president of the International Association for the Psychology of Religion.

**Dr. Annette Leis-Peters** is Professor of the Sociology of Religion and Diaconal Studies at VID Specialized University in Norway. She holds a doctoral degree and an associate professorship in Sociology of Religion from Uppsala University in Sweden. At VID she is academically responsible for the PhD programme in Diakonia, Values and Professional Practice. Her research interests lie in the intersection between religion, civil society, welfare and migration. Within this field she has been involved in several Nordic and European research projects and published various articles in peer-reviewed journals and books. Most recently, she has edited the volume *Stuck in the Margins? Young people and faith-based organizations in South-African and Nordic localities* (2022) together with Ignatius Swart, Auli Vähäkangas and Marlize Rabe. She is also editor-in-chief of the interdisciplinary journal *Diaconia: Journal for the Study Christian Social Practice*.

**Dr. Tuomas Martikainen** is a University Lecturer in Cultural Anthropology at the University of Eastern Finland. His areas of expertise include immigrant religions and migrant integration. He has published widely in the topics, including the monograph *Religion, Migration, Settlement* (2013), and co-edited volumes *Muslims at the Margins of Europe* (with José Mapril and Adil Khan, 2019) and *Routledge International Handbook of Religion in Global Society* (with Jayeel Cornelio, François Gauthier and Linda Woodhead, 2021).

**Dr. Karolis Žibas** is sociologist, works as Integration Officer at UNHCR Representation for the Nordic and Baltic Countries. Žibas is leading UNHCR's integration activities in the region by strengthening partnerships in various integration areas, including socioeconomic inclusion and welcoming societies, labor market and local level integration, participatory assessment and information management.

**Dr. Milda Ališauskienė** is a professor of sociology at Vytautas Magnus University in Kaunas, Lithuania. Her research areas include religious diversity, gender and religion, religion and politics in the post-communist society. In 2011 M. Ališauskienė together with Ingo W. Schroeder co-edited a volume *“Religious Diversity in Post-Soviet Society”* (Ashgate, since 2016 -

Routledge). In 2017 and 2021 she was a guest editor and co-editor of *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* special issues on new religions in Eastern Europe and religious leadership.

**Dr. Mar Griera** is Associate Professor in the Faculty of Political Science and Sociology at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, and the current director of the [research group ISOR](#) (Research centre for the study of religion). Her main research expertise lies at the intersection of religion, spirituality, politics and heritage regimes in contemporary Europe. She is currently the vice-president of the RC22 committee on Sociology of Religion of the *International Sociological Association* (ISA) and member of the European Board of the IESR (*Institut Européen en Sciences des Religions* – Paris).

**Dr. Adam Dinham** is Professor of Faith & Public Policy, co-head of the department of Social, Therapeutic and Community Studies and director of the Faiths & Civil Society Unit at Goldsmiths, University of London. He combines Applied Social Studies and Social Policy (MA, Brunel), Politics (PhD, Goldsmiths), and Sociology (former chair, BSA Sociology of Religion) with Theology and Religious Studies (BA, MA, Cambridge), alongside professional qualifications in children's Social Work (DipSW, Brunel), Community Development and Youth Work (Brunel), and Counseling and Psychotherapy (BACP, UWE).

**Dr. Olena Panych** is a lecturer at the Department of Religious Studies at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Her research areas include history of Evangelicalism in Soviet and Post-Soviet Ukraine, Evangelicalism within the contexts of religious diversity of contemporary Ukraine. She also has been conducting research on the memory and identities of post-Soviet Evangelical immigrants to the USA (supported by Fulbright Scholar Program in 2012/13). Her teaching areas include different aspects of interreligious relations and state policies towards religious denominations in the countries of Eastern and Western Europe and Ukraine.

**Dr. Aleksandar Nacev** holds a PhD degree in Security from the Institute for Security, Defense and Peace in Skopje. He is currently working as the Dean of the Faculty of Detectives and Criminalistics at the European University in Skopje. His previous work assignments include working as a diplomat in the Mission of the Republic of Macedonia to NATO HQ in Brussels and serving as the Director of the Directorate for Security of Classified Information of the Republic of Macedonia.