

## INVITATION

The Hanns Seidel Foundation, ForumBrussels International and the Robert Schuman Foundation have the pleasure of inviting you to a conference on:

### Religion and Politics in a free Society

**Thursday, 19 March 2015**

12.30 pm to 2.15 pm

Registration and Lunch at 12.00 pm

#### Venue:

Hotel Leopold  
Rue du Luxembourg 35, 1050 Brussels

## PROGRAMME

12.00 pm REGISTRATION AND LUNCH

12.30 pm WELCOMING AND INTRODUCTION

#### **Christian FORSTNER**

Director, Brussels Office, Hanns Seidel Foundation

#### **Charles DE MARCILLY**

Representative Brussels Office, Robert Schuman Foundation

12.35 pm KEY NOTE SPEECH

#### **Fundamentalism - When religion becomes violence**

#### **Prof. Dr. mult. Thomas SCHIRRMACHER**

President of the International Council of the International Society for Human Rights

#### **Religious Puritanism and Violence in Post-Modern Migration Context**

#### **Dr. Khalid HAJJI**

Secretary General CEOM (Conseil Européen des Ouléma Marocains)

1.00 pm PANEL DEBATE

#### **Prof. Dr. mult. Thomas SCHIRRMACHER**

#### **Dr. Khalid HAJJI**

#### **Katharina VON SCHNURBEIN**

Advisor for Interfaith Dialogue, Cabinet of the First Vice-President of the European Commission

#### **Prof. Abdul Rahman MAS'UD, Ph.D**

Director General/Head of the Research and Development Agency of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Republic of Indonesia

#### MODERATION

#### **Isabel GUZMÁN**

Brussels Correspondent,  
German Protestant Press (epd)

2.15 pm END OF THE CONFERENCE

## BACKGROUND

Integration and identity, democratic core values and religion, as well as religious fundamentalism and terrorism are issues which have been causing debates for a while now.


On the one hand, terms are deliberately being associated and misused, in some cases fear and mistrust are stirred up. On the other hand, the terrorist attacks in Paris and the foiled attacks in Belgium have shown real threats to our society and its values through radicalized jihadists.

Nevertheless, it is important to differentiate and illustrate the kind of fundamentalism that constitutes the source of threats, as well as to examine the reasons for the propensity to extreme violence of certain individuals and groups.

We kindly invite you to discuss these highly topical issues, religion and politics in a free society, with our experts.

**Conference languages:** German and English  
(Simultaneous Interpretation is provided)

#### **Organisation and Contact:**

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