

Muslim groups and organisations respond to the needs of their members by offering consultation services, childcare, educational programmes, spiritual care and material assistance and thus contribute to welfare production in Western societies. Although in many cases these activities can be characterised as a community-oriented help, more often than not, they go beyond the boundaries of Muslim communities to benefit society as a whole. Muslim actors are also starting to professionalise their services and to negotiate the ways in which they can become fully recognised service-providers within the welfare state. In contrast to the widespread processes of secularisation of social work and its separation from religious communities, new types of activities are now emerging, which bring back to the public arena both an increased sensitivity to the religious identities of the beneficiaries and the religious motivations of the benefactors. This development raises a myriad of theoretical and empirical questions like: What is the relationship between social commitment and religious motivations from Muslim actors' perspectives? How is Islamic social work linked to the mainstream social work provided by the State or other non-profit organisations and how can it go beyond the conventional models to develop a different social work? How can Islamic social work promote self-esteem of its clients while avoiding the emergence or reinforcement of solitaristic religious identities? What is the contribution of reflections in the social field for the development of an Islamic practical theology?

The topic of the conference is not only a field of action and debate in the context of different welfare regimes, but also an expanding subject of academic research. Therefore it has been chosen for this year's annual international conference of the Swiss Center for Islam and Society (SCIS). Linked with the postgraduate programme "Islam and Society: Islamic-Theological Studies" of the SCIS the multidisciplinary conferences focus on topics that lie at the interface of Islamic-Theological Studies and social issues. Hence, graduate and postgraduate students of related disciplines as well as practitioners are highly encouraged to participate.

**Registration (only required for the 12.09.19):**

Please register by 04.09.2019 - Registration form  
Fee 50.- Lunch and coffee breaks included  
Evening public lectures free of charge

**Poster exhibition:**

Participants are invited to display research posters

**Location:**

Université de Fribourg  
Boulevard de Pérolles 90  
CH-1700 Fribourg

**Access:**

From Fribourg train station: Bus no 1 (direction Marly-Gérine), no 3 (direction Pérolles) or no 7 (direction Cliniques). Exit at Pérolles Charmettes  
On foot: 15 min. from the train station

**Hotels:**

For accommodation options:  
<http://www.fribourgtourisme.ch/>

**Scientific direction:**

Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Schmid and Prof. Dr. Amir Dziri, Swiss Center for Islam and Society, University of Fribourg  
Dr. Amir Sheikhzadegan, Department of Social Sciences, University of Fribourg

**Secretariat:**

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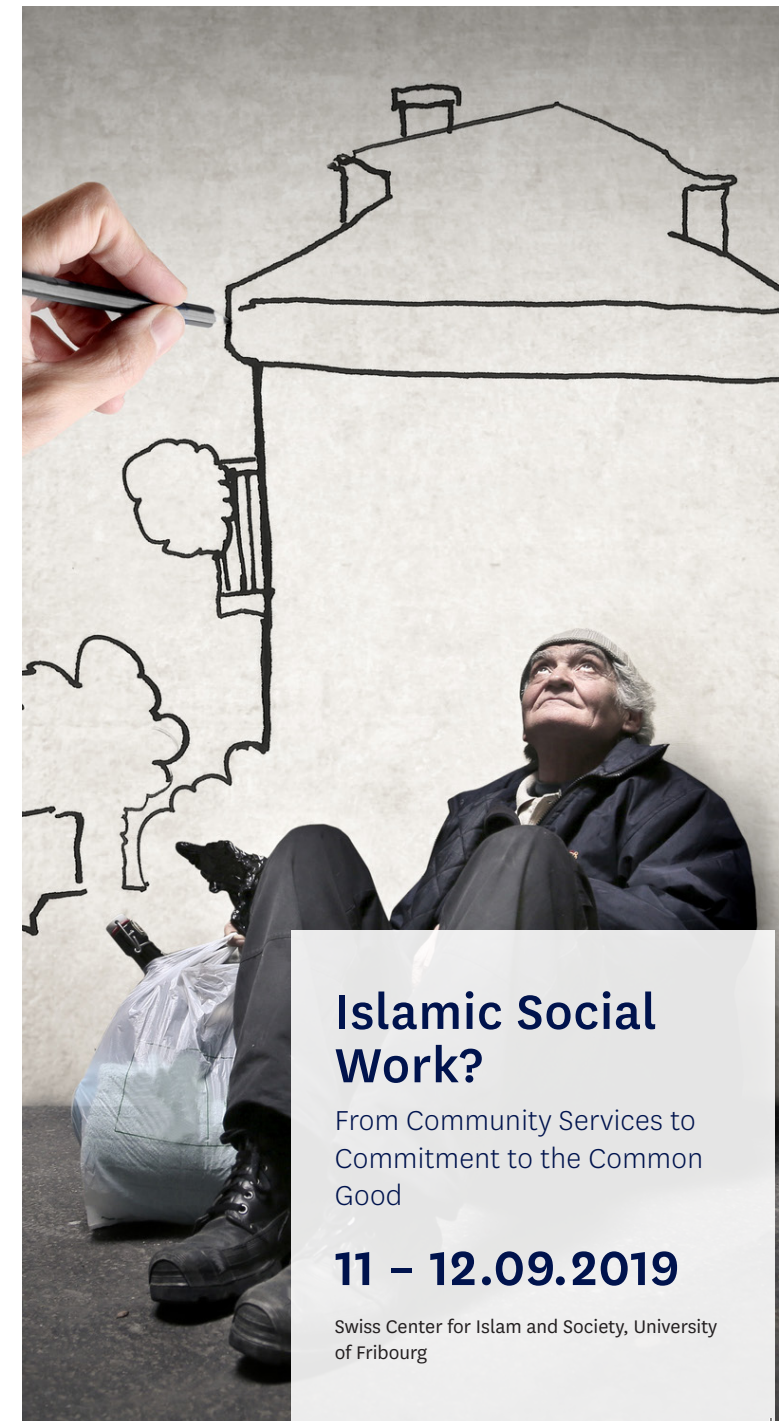
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## Islamic Social Work?

From Community Services to Commitment to the Common Good

**11 – 12.09.2019**

Swiss Center for Islam and Society, University of Fribourg

**11.09.19-Room A140**

**17.00–19.00h**

*Public Lectures (in French):*

**Face à la radicalisation : Contre-discours et action sociale islamiques**

**(Facing Radicalization: Islamic Counter-Speech and Social Work)**

**Dr. Mohamed Bajrafil, Imam, Paris**

**Prof. Dr. Michel Younès, Lyon Catholic University**

*Chair:* Prof. Dr. Hansjörg Schmid, University of Fribourg

**12.09.19-Room C230**

**8.45–10.15h**

**Keynote: Islamic Social Work as a Contribution to the Common Good**

Prof. Dr. Serdar Kurnaz, University of Hamburg

*The Maqāsid-cum-maṣlaḥa Approach as Theological Basis of Islamic Social Work – A Critical Analysis and an Alternative Proposal*

*Response*

Dilwar Hussain, New Horizons, London/Coventry University

*Chair:* Prof. Dr. Amir Dziri, University of Fribourg

**10.15–10.45h – Coffee break**

**10.45–12.15h**

**Panel 1: Islamic Social Work in (Post-) Secular Spaces**

Prof. Dr. Daniel Verba, Sorbonne Paris 13 Cité University

*Social Work through the Prism of the Religious Facts: Islam in Questions*

Prof. Dr. Sara Ashencaen Crabtree, University of Bournemouth

*Islamic Social Work – a Potential Response to Marginalisation*

*Chair:* Dr. Amir Sheikhzadegan, University of Fribourg

**12.15–13.15h – Lunch (Buffet)**

**12.09.19-Room C230**

**13.15–14.45h**

**Panel 2: Field of Action: Youth and Family**

Dr. Aylin Yanik-Şenay, Cologne

*Family Counselling as a Field of Islamic Social Work*

Dr. Abdullah Sahin, University of Warwick

*Human Dignity, Common Good and Social Welfare: towards an Islamic Relational Social Ethics*

*Chair:* Nadire Mustafi M.A., University of Fribourg

**14.45–15.15h – Coffee break**

**15.15–16.45h**

**Panel 3: Field of Action: Exclusion and Resocialization**

Baptiste Brodard M.A., University of Fribourg

*Helping the Muslims or Contributing to Society? Insight into the Paradoxes of Islamic Social Work and Aid through Concrete Cases*

Dr. Lamia Irfan, SOAS London

*The Religious Community - A Space that Facilitates Successful Resettlement for Muslim Offenders*

*Chair:* Arlinda Amity M.A., University of Fribourg

**16.45–17.00h – Coffee Break**

**17.00–18.30h**

**Panel 4: Towards a Practical Theology in Islam**

Dr. Nazila Isgandarova, University of Toronto

*“Epistemic Weight” of Praxis in the Production and Teaching of New Knowledge in Islamic Practical Theology*

Prof. Dr. Tarek Badawia, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg

*Islamic Practical Theology: A Socio-ethical and Interdisciplinary Approach*

*Chair:* Dilek Ucak Ekinci M.A., University of Fribourg