



**Department of Media Studies, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad**

**Centre for the Study of Religion, Politics and Society, Novi Sad, Serbia**

In cooperation with

**Amsterdam Centre for the Study of Lived Religion, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam**  
under the sponsorship of the **National Endowment for Democracy**

## **Invitation for submission of summaries**

26<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

### **Populism, Refugee Crisis, Religion, Media**

Twenty years have passed since Samuel Huntington proposed his famous thesis about the conflict between civilizations, confronting Francis Fukuyama's theory about the end of history, the end of the Cold War and the final victory of the liberal-democratic society. Huntington's idea, which warned about the transformation of cold-war conflicts into conflicts of religious and cultural wholes, started becoming true just a decade later, when the world, after facing the attack on the World Trade Center in New York, entered a kind of Schmidt-like friend-enemy polarization and a constant state of emergency. The global war declared against terrorism might be an introduction into one type of conflict between Western-Christian and Islamic civilization, and the intensity of this conflict does not slow down.

Huntington was partially right as he predicted one undisputed geopolitical fact: "The conflict between civilizations will dominate global politics – the lines of conflict will be the lines where these civilizations meet". The ideological polarization between communism and, before all, Western capitalist and democratic society, which disappeared at the beginning of the ninety-nineties with the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the strengthening of Russia's geopolitical role and the domination of the USA, caused a new type of confrontation which includes not only an ideological side to it, but also a national and a religious one.

Taking this into account, it is beyond any doubt that the geopolitical tensions between West and East have an effect on our political, and, therefore, also our media context, through which we can see the dominant matrix of populism, which not only devalues media reporting but also erases the border between facts on one side, and a sensationalist manipulation with information on the other.



**Suggestions which include the following topics are especially welcome:**

The migrant crisis

Interpretation of the “Conflict between civilizations” in a modern context

Nationalistic populism and the defending of Hague defendants

The return of hate speech to the public scene

Mass crimes and remembrances

Religion and the politics of remembrance on the post-Yugoslav territory

Religions, media and populism

Media, populism and transitional justice

Religions, nationalism and the politics of remembrance in a media discourse

The Initiative for RECOM and culture of remembrance

Trauma and transgenerational remembrance

**We suggest works from the following scientific disciplines:**

History, Anthropology, Sociology, Psychology, Religious studies, Cultural studies, Media studies, Communicology, Gender studies, Remembrance studies, Conflict studies, Heritage studies, Trauma studies

**Process of application:**

The final deadline for the sending of summaries is 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2017. Works should include a title, a summary (up to 300 words), a biography (up to 300 words) and should be sent to the following mail address: [zurnal@ff.uns.ac.rs](mailto:zurnal@ff.uns.ac.rs)

You will be informed about the results of the selection by 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2017, and the submission of completed reports is expected by 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2017. The conference will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 on the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Novi Sad. A collection will be published which will include reviewed works from the conference.

The work languages are BHCS and English. Reports can be presented in one of the working languages, but completed reports should be sent in BHCS or English.

The registration fee for the conference is 20 Euros. The organizers will provide lunch during the conference and coffee will be provided during breaks. Participants should cover travel and accommodation costs on their own

**Keynote speakers:**

Hrvoje Klasić, Croatia

Milivoj Bešlin, Serbia

Nikolai Jeffs, Slovenia

**Scientific comitee and partners:**

Dubravka Valić – Nedeljković, Faculty of Philosphy, University of Novi Sad

Dinko Gruhonjić, Faculty of Philosphy, University of Novi Sad

Nikola Knežević, Centre for the Study of Religion, Politics and Society, Novi Sad

Srđan Sremac, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Centre for the Study of Religion, Politics and Society, Novi Sad

Ruard Ganzevoort, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
Amsterdam Centre for the Study of Lived Religion Amsterdam, Vrije Universiteit  
Amsterdam

Zlatiborka Popov Momčilović, Faculty of Philosophy, University of East Sarajevo

Gorazd Andrejč, Woolf Institute, Cambridge, UK