Call for Papers

There is a long tradition of dealing with the relationship between God and Morality. Philosophers throughout the ages have discussed if and to what extent morality can be, must be or does not have to be grounded in a theistic setting. Attempts to answer this question are an ever greater challenge in a globalizing world where theism itself is challenged by fundamentally different ways of relating to reality. At the same time, the question of the foundations of morality represent a major challenge with regards to current societal debate in a world that is facing a “crisis of meaning” (Mattéi) thus favoring a “return of religion” to provide orientation (Bolz/Girsberger). Given the contemporary interplay of actors with fundamentally different backgrounds, it is relevant and timely to reconsider this complex and multifaceted issue. For the conference God and Morality, we solicit proposals that critically reflect and reconsider, both historically and systematically, current positions in the light of a globalized environment where the Christian-Platonic tradition cannot be held to be the major frame of reference.

Papers may address, among others, the following topics:

a) How can the relation of God and Morality be conceived? (e. g. Euthyphro; Ethico Theology; Divine Command Theory; Natural Law; Evolutionary accounts of Morality and/or God)

b) How to talk about God in the light of evil? (e. g. Theodicy; Religion and Violence; Religious Fundamentalism and Terrorism; The Concept of Sin; Justice, Grace and Eschatological Hope)

c) How can Normativity and Aesthetics be interpreted as approaches to God and Morality? (e. g. Perspectives from Art, Culture, History, Literature, Memory Studies, Ritual Theory and Psychology)

d) How is the concept of God related to the definition of “good”/“evil” or morally “right”/“wrong”? (e. g. Historical and systematical Perspectives from Metaethics, Theological Ethics, Biblical theology, Mysticism and Bioethics)

e) How to talk about Morality within an atheistic religion or society? (e. g. Buddhist Ethics, Divine Hiddenness, New Atheism, Naturalism or perspectives from Sociology)

We invit you to submit a proposal including title, abstract (max. 250 words), short cv before May 15th 2021 to god-and-morality@ku.de

Decisions regarding the acceptance of proposals will be communicated before June 15th.
About the conference

The bilingual conference (English and French) understands the connection between God and morality as a multi-layered and complex problem. Consequently, it will try to bring together scholars from different disciplines such as social science, cultural studies, literary studies, philosophy or theology in order to encourage an exchange about God and morality.

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Conference Fees: 30 €
→ The conference fees include coffee breaks and meals (dinner on October 4th and 5th, Lunch on October 5th)
→ There is no funding for travel and accommodation
→ Participation is free for PhD students

Our Key-Note Speakers

**Ingolf U. Dalferth**
Danforth Professor Emeritus for Philosophy of Religion, Claremont Graduate University, CA USA

**C. Stephen Evans**
University Professor of Philosophy and Humanities, Baylor University, TX USA
Professorial Fellow, Logos Institute, the University of St. Andrews, U.K.

**John E. Hare**
Noah Porter Professor of Philosophical Theology
Yale Divinity School, CT USA

**J. L. Schellenberg**
Professor of Philosophy
Mount Saint Vincent University and Dalhousie University, Halifax Canada

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