



# International Conference

## Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue: Transmission of Ideas in Europe

**June 02 – 03, 2025**

### Organized by:

Institute of Philosophy and Sociology – Bulgarian  
Academy of Sciences

Council for Research in Values and Philosophy &  
McLean Center for the Study of Culture and Values,  
Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**JUNE 02**

**Conference Venue: The 'Acad. Ivan Geshov' Hall, Central  
Building of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 2nd Floor, 1 15  
Noemvri St., Sofia 1000, Bulgaria**

**Time Zone: Eastern European Summer Time UTC +3**

**09.00 – 09.30 REGISTRATION**

**09.30 – 10.00 OPENING CEREMONY**

### Welcome Remarks:

Prof. DSc. B. Todorova – Deputy Director of the Institute of  
Philosophy of the Bulgarian Academy of Science

Bishop Petko Valov – Chairman of the Episcopal Conference of the  
Catholic Church in Bulgaria

Directorate – Ecclesiastical Matters, Council of Ministry, Bulgaria

Dr. Hu Yeping – Council for Research in Values and Philosophy,  
Washington, D.C.

**10.00 – 12.10           SESSION I**

*Moderator: Prof. Bogdana Todorova*

**10.00 - 10.20**

**Prof. William Barbieri**

Catholic University of America (USA)

*Moral Universalism and Intercultural Dialogue*

**10.20 - 10.40**

**Prof. Dr. Plamen Makariev**

Sofia University (Bulgaria)

*Religiously Motivated Messages to Society: The “Common Language” Challenge*

**10.40 – 11.00 COFFEE BREAK**

*Moderator: Dr. Hu Yeping*

**11.00 - 11.20**

**Dr. Emanuel Sălăgean**

University of Bucharest (Romania)

*Common Ideas, Diverse Cultures: The Legacy of Cusanus in McLean’s Global Vision*

**11.20 - 11.40**

**Dr. Andrew Blasco**

Institute of Population and Human Sciences, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Bulgaria/Sweden)

*Constructivism in the Service of Subjugation*

**11.40 – 12.10 Discussion for SESSION I**

**12.10 – 13.00**

**LUNCH BREAK**

**13.00 – 15.00**

**SESSION II**

*Moderator: Prof. Mihaela Pop*

**13.00 - 13.20**

**Prof. Dr. João J. Vila-Chã**

Pontificia Università Gregoriana (Roma, Italy)

*Modeling Knowledge And Its Transmission: The Case of the Platonic Academy of Florence during the Renaissance*

**13.20 -13.40**

**Assoc. Prof. Iva Manova**

IPS - BAS (Bulgaria)

*Pyotr Mikhailovich Bitsilli as Transmitter of Ideas: His Émigré Fate and His Concept of Cultural Renaissance*

**13.40 - 14.00**

**Dr. Bianka Boteva-Richter**

University of Vienna (Austria)

*Migration and Fragmented Existence: A European Japanese Elaboration of Human Existence as Being In-between*

**14.00 – 14.30 Discussion for SESSION II**

**14.30 – 15.00 COFFEE BREAK**

**15.00 – 16.30 SESSION III**

*Chair: Prof. William Barbieri*

**15.00 - 15.20**

**Prof. Meritorious Abdul Rashid**  
University of Karachi (Pakistan)

*Dialogue among Cultures: Nexus for Justice Harmony and Peace with Pakistan Praxis”*

**15.20 - 15.40**

**Prof. Bogdana Todorova**  
IPS-BAS (Bulgaria)

*The Transmission of Islamic Philosophy and Knowledge to Europe*

**15.40 - 16.00**

**Prof. Nazeem Goolam**  
(South Africa)

*The Transmission of Knowledge from the Islamic World to Europe*

**16.00 – 16.30 Discussion for SESSION III**

**18.00 Cocktail Reception With Conference Participants**

Event Venue: [Library at the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology – Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 6 Patriarh Evtimiy Blvd., 2nd Floor, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria](#)

**JUNE 03**

Conference Venue: [Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, 6 Patriarh Evtimiy Blvd., Sofia 1000, Bulgaria](#)

**10.00 – 11.30 SESSION IV**

*Moderator: Prof. João J. Vila-Chã*

**10.00 - 10.20**

**Assoc. Prof. Bharati Puri**  
IIT Delhi (India)

*Thich Nhat Hanh: Seeing the World in a Piece of Carrot*

**10.20 - 10.40**

**Assist. Prof. Ludmil Petrov, PhD**  
IPS-BAS (Bulgaria)

*Religious Being of the Human*

**10.40 - 11.00**

**Professor Emeritus Mihaela Pop**

Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest (Romania)

*Some Artistic Intercultural Contributions of Romanian Jews at the Beginning of the 20th Century*

**11.00 – 11.30 Discussion for SESSION IV**

**11.30 – 12.00 COFFEE BREAK**

**12.00 – 13.30 SESSION V**

*Chair: Assoc. Prof. Iva Manova*

**12.00 - 12.20**

**Dr. Evelina Hein**

Sofia University (Bulgaria)

*Introduction of Confucian Ideas into Bulgaria from the Early XXth Century to the Early XXIst Century (via Germany)*

**12.20 - 12.40**

**Assoc. Prof. Hristina Ambareva**

IPS – BAS (Bulgaria)

*Cultural Shifts in Privacy from Greek Agora to Dragonfly Eyes*

**12.40 - 13.00**

**Dr. Vessela Misheva**

Department of Sociology, Uppsala University (Sweden)

*Fostering Mutual Understanding: Self-Alienation as a Social Virtue*

**13.00 – 13.15 Discussion for SESSION V**

**13.30 CLOSING SESSION  
LUNCH BREAK**

**CULTURAL PROGRAM: Ancient ‘Serdica’ - open-air museum**

**We look forward to seeing you all again.**

**Chair of the Organizing Committee:**

Prof. Bogdana Todorova (IPS-BAS)

**Members of the Organizing Committee:**

Assoc. Prof. Iva Manova (IPS - BAS)

Prof. Emeritus Mihaela Pop (Faculty of Philosophy, University of Bucharest, Romania)

Prof. João J. Vila-Chã (Pontificia Università Gregoriana Rome, Italy)

Dr. Hu Yeping (Council for Research in Values and Philosophy, Washington, D.C., USA)

Assist. Prof. Silviya Pencheva-Karamfilova (IPS - BAS) – Secretary