



## Religion, Radicalization and De-radicalization Processes: A Comparative Perspective

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Radicalization and deradicalization processes involving religion are always intertwined with other issues, such as injustice, grievance, alienation and polarization. Religion and policies to accommodate religious diversity have political and social consequences; they can reinforce or diffuse conflicts, tensions or social unrest and can be instruments of inclusion or exclusion, affecting the stability and security of the society. Accordingly, religion in its dimensions such as identity, practice, doctrine or spirituality combines with local, national, and transnational political processes, actors or issues. State politics is affected by political processes involving religion and vice versa, transnational religious movements, organizations, networks and communities challenge not only states' sovereignty claims or existing models of diversity governance, but also concern public security and societal cohesion. In the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic that accentuates the spread of fake news, and serves as a catalysator for conspiracy theories, religion plays an ambivalent role.





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