

Special Issue

Geopolitics and Religion(s): Neglected Topics in the Current World Crisis

Message from the Guest Editors

Religions and *geopolitics* have conjoined and moved to the center stage of today's dangerous world. They are strange bedfellows: association with Nazism discredited geopolitics, whereas religion which gave birth to the International Relations (IR) discipline through the bloody intra-Christian wars of the 16th and 17th centuries has been excluded from the public sphere and international relations. Now the two return "from exile" in many narratives. The concept of Eurasia, in combination with the "holy" mission of Russian Orthodox Christianity to save it from the "decadent" Western branch, the West, attracts anti-Western geopolitical alliances such as BRICS of explicitly mutually hostile religious faiths. To include all narratives into the new "Global IR" trend, we want to explore the range of narratives of geopolitics and religion, as they come from different parts of the world but are often not included as mere ideologies filtered out of the Western dialogue. We are pleased to invite contributions beyond the view of religion as merely a "soft power" to "sharp" or "smart", towards a new generation of critical geopolitics of religions.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2025)



Religions

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 0.6
CiteScore 1.3



mdpi.com/si/173345

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Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

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