

Special Issue

Social Challenges: Migration and Religious Diversity in Contemporary Cities

Message from the Guest Editors

Growing religious diversity is a key implication of migration processes and the city scale represents a crucial setting in which it has developed. Immigrants have progressively intercalated their faiths into urban areas and suburbs, diversifying and transforming the sense and use of these territories.

Cities have, in this sense, become a crucial spatial level where post-secularisation trends affirm in contemporary societies. Migrants revitalize religions and find in them an important means of communitarian cohesion and activism, assigning new social, cultural and political meanings to cityscapes. Faith minorities indeed experience imaginaries, practices and networks that create new links and bridges between local and global processes, in which cities are a key crossroads. At the same time, this immigrant religious placemaking rewrites and renovates urban contexts by intertwining boundaries such as sacred and profane, private and public, and visible and invisible.

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