

**SECULARISM, THE SECULAR STATE AND RELIGIOUS DIVERSITY
Ethnicity and Democratic Governance Workshop**

University of Ottawa, October 31st-November 2nd 2008

SCHEDULE

October 31st, @ 6 PM

6:00 Reception (55 East Laurier Avenue, Desmarais 3120)

November 1st

9:00 - 9:15: **Welcome and Introduction**

9: 15-10:45 **Session #1: Defining Secularism and the Secular State**

Bruce Berman (Queen's). *Secular Modernity, Religion and the Politics of Knowledge: Whose Truth?*

Rajeev Bhargava (Delhi CSDS). *Rehabilitating Secularism: why some secular states better manage religious diversity*

Discussant: **TBA**

10:45-11:00 coffee break

11:00-12:30 **Session #2: Religious Pluralism and the Issue of Respect**

Peter Beyer (Ottawa). *Religious Pluralism as Self-Evident Problem in the Context of Globalization.*

Tariq Modood (Bristol). *Secularism, Religion as Identity, and Respect for Religion.*

Discussant: **David Peloquin** (Policy Research Initiative)

12:30- 1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:00 **Session #3: Canadian Perspectives on Religion and Accommodation**

Lori Beaman (Ottawa). *Tolerance and Accommodation as Vestiges of Empire*

Avigail Eisenberg (Victoria). *Religious Accommodation and the perils of authenticity.*

Discussant: **Ian Donaldson** (Heritage Canada)

3:00-3:15 Coffee Break

3:15-4:45 **Session #4: Canadian Perspectives on Religion and Multiculturalism**

Yasmeen Abu-Laban (Alberta) and **Claude Couture** (Alberta). *Religious Minorities and the Struggle for a Secular Space: The Canadian Constitution, Official Language Minorities, and Education.*

David Seljak (Waterloo) and **Paul Bramadat** (Victoria). *Multiculturalism, Ethnicity and Religion: Lessons from the Canadian experience.*

Discussant: **Eva Lazar** (Citizenship and Immigration Canada)

5:00 Coffee Break

5:15-6:00 **Razmik Panossian** (Rights and Democracy) *Religions and Human Rights*

6:30 Conference dinner (Courtyard Restaurant)

November 2nd

9: 15-10:45 **Session #5: Secularism in the West and in the Post-Soviet World**

Jose Casanova (Georgetown). *Modes of secularism and regimes of religious pluralism: A comparison of Russia and Ukraine*

Ahmet Kuru (San Diego). *Comparing the American, French, and Turkish experience*

Discussant: **Andre Laliberte** (Ottawa)

10:45-11:00 coffee break

11:00-12:30 **Session #6: Testing Secularism in South Asia and the Middle East**

Elinor Bray-Colins (Toronto). *The Reversal of State Formation, Deepening Informality, and the Politics of Youth in Lebanon*

Rinku Lamba (EUI). *Non-Domination and the Secular State: a Response to the Postcolonial Critique*

Discussant: **Tariq Modood** (Bristol)

12:30- 1:30 Lunch

1:30-3:00 **Session # 7: The Secular State and Religious Diversity in Africa**

Shaheen Mozaffar (Bridgewater). *Democracy and Islam: Theoretical Lessons From Africa.*

Ruth Marshall (Toronto). *Miracles, Secularism and Sovereignty in Nigeria*

Discussant: **Bruce Berman** (Queen's)

3:00-3:15 Coffee Break

3:15-4:45 **Session # 8: Beyond the Secular State in East and Southeast Asia**

Andre Laliberte (Ottawa). *Something got lost in translation: From 'secularism' to 'separation between politics and religion' in Taiwan*

Manuel Litalien (UQAM). *Changing state monopoly on religion and secular views in Thailand.*

Discussant: **Rajeev Bhargava** (Delhi CSDS)