



## **2006 Conference on Law and Religion in Transitional Societies**

*Comparative Approaches to the Rule of Law*

### **Co-sponsors:**

Oslo Coalition on Freedom of Religion or Belief, University of Oslo  
Institute for World Religions, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences  
International Center for Law and Religion Studies, Brigham Young University J. Reuben  
Clark Law School  
Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Emory University School of Law  
Pu Shi Institute for Social Science  
Council on Faith & International Affairs

*Oslo, Norway  
1-4 December 2006*

### **CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

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#### **Friday, 1 December**

Arrival of scholars and guests (Holmenkollen Park Hotel Rica, Check-In)

#### **Saturday, 2 December**

8:30-9:00      **Conference Registration**

9:00-9:15      **Welcome**

Opening comments and introduction of inaugural speakers by  
Dag Nygård, Chairman, Oslo Coalition

- 9:15-10:45 **Session 1: Comparative Approaches to Regulating Religion in Transitional Societies**  
Co-Chairs: Ingzill T. Plessner & Jin Ze
- Tahir Mahmood, Chair, Amity University Institute of Advanced Legal Studies & Amity School of Religion and Law (30')
- Jeremy Gunn, Expert on Religious Freedom, Director, ACLU Program on Freedom of Religion and Belief (30')
- Question & Answer (30')
- 10:45-11:00 **Break**
- 11:00-12:30 **Session 2: Social Service Activities of Religious Groups**  
Co-Chairs: Qiu Yonghui & Rik Torfs
1. Zhao Jianmin, Institute for the Study of Christianity and Culture (20')
2. Mark Hill, Cardiff Law School (20')
3. Corwin Smidt, Calvin College (20')
- Question & Answer (30')
- 12:30-14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00-15:30 **Session 3: Registration of Religious Organizations: Effective Asian & Western Examples**  
Co-Chairs: Pauline Côté & Wang Aiguo
1. Cole Durham, Brigham Young University (20')
2. Silvio Ferrari, Università degli Studi di Milano (20')
3. Wei Hong, China National School of Administration (20')
- Question & Answer (30')
- 15:30-16:00 **Break**
- 16:00-17:30 **Session 4: Balancing State Security and Religious Autonomy**  
Co-Chairs: Malcolm Evans & Liu Peng
1. Wang Aiguo, Bureau of Religious Affairs of Yunnan Province (20')
2. Brett Scharffs, Brigham Young University (20')
3. Chris Seiple, Council on Faith and International Affairs (20')
- Question & Answer (30')

19:00-21:30 **Banquet**

Remarks by distinguished Norwegian guests. Evening entertainment.

**Sunday, 3 December**

9:00-10:10 **Session 5: Comparative Approaches to Financial Issues Regarding Religion**

Co-Chairs: Zhang Qianfan & Cole Durham

1. Sophie van Bijsterveld, Tilburg University (20')
2. Alain Garay, La Cour de Paris (20')

Question & Answer (30')

10:10-10:30 **Break**

10:30-12:00 **Session 6: Religion and Society**

Co-Chairs: Liu Peng & Brett Scharffs

1. Blandine Chelini-Pont, Universite Paul Cezanne (20')
2. Tore Lindholm, University of Oslo (20')
3. Qiu Yonghui, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (20')

Question & Answer (30')

12:00-13:30 **Lunch**

13:30-15:00 **Session 7: Comparative Approaches to Implementing International Standards in Religion Legislation**

Co-Chairs: Zhao Jianmin & Jeremy Gunn

1. Liu Peng, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (20')
2. Malcolm Evans, University of Bristol (20')
3. Jay Wexler, Boston University (20')

Question & Answer (30')

15:00-15:30 **Break**

15:30-17:00 **Session 8: Rule of Law & the Management of Religious Affairs**

Co-Chairs: Wei Hong & Tahir Mahmood

1. Zhang Qianfan, Beijing University (20')
2. Pauline Côté, Universite Lava (20')
3. Rik Torfs, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (20')

Question & Answer (30')

19:00-21:00 **Farewell banquet**

Remarks by distinguished guests. Farewell and conclusion.

**Monday, 4 December**

Departure of scholars and guests