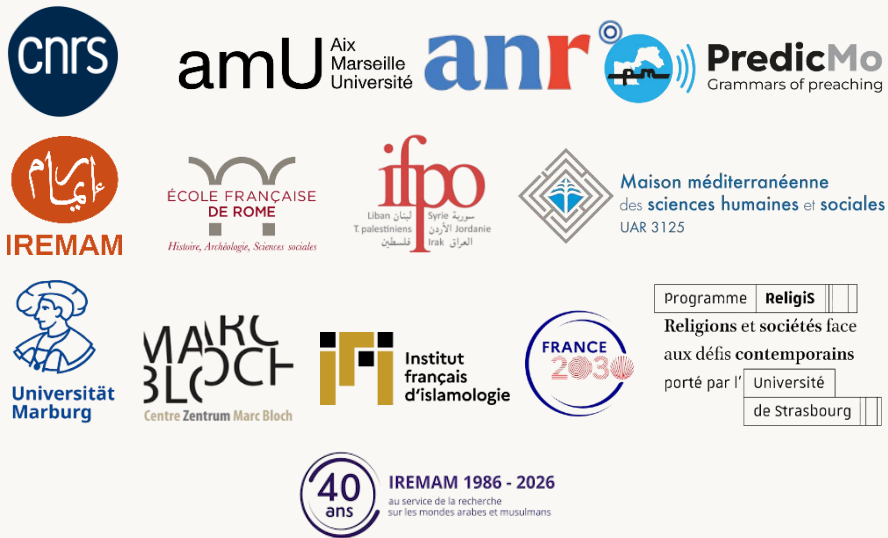


International Workshop

(Re)Thinking the Role of Religion in Social and Humanitarian Action

Preaching in a Transnational Approach

Middle East (19th-21st centuries)



18-19 June 2026
Centre Marc Bloch
Friedrichstraße 191, 10117 Berlin,
Tillion room, 7th floor

Program:

18th June 2026

8:45 am. – 9:10 am. – Welcome of Participants

9:10 am. – 9:30 am. – Introduction and Conceptual Framework
by Annalaura Turiano (IREMAM, CNRS, amU, ANR PredicMO) and Esther Moeller (Marburg University)

9:30 am. – 11:00 am. – **Panel 1 – Spiritual Engagement and Economic Rationales: The Entangled Dynamics of Welfare and Preaching**

Chair: Nazan Maksudyan (Centre Marc Bloch)

9:30 am. – 10:15 am. – Gabriel Doyle (Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations and the Istanbul Research Institute)
“Not a single penny of my lottery earnings is present inside this mosque”: *Islamic Morality and Urban Patronage in 1960s Istanbul*

10:15 am. – 11:00 am. – Tea Pitiurishvili (Tbilisi State University)
Seeking the Path: Neʿmatullahia Order’s One Branch from Traditional Mysticism to a Socially Engaged Form of Sufism

11:00 am. – 11:30 am. – Coffee break

11:30 am. – 1:00 pm. – **Panel 2 – The Moral Politics of Humanitarianism**

Chair: Giulia Scalettaris (Centre Marc Bloch)

11:30 am. – 12:15 pm. – Carla Tiefenbacher (University of Köln)
“May God reward us for our efforts”: *Voluntourism, Humanitarian Crises, and How to Preach Catholicism in the Spanish-Moroccan Borderlands*

12:15 pm. – 1:00 pm. – Estella Carpi (University College London)
The Moral Politics of Faith-Inspired Humanitarianism in Lebanon

1:00 pm. – 2:00 pm. – **Lunch**

2:00 pm. – 3:30 pm. – **Panel 3 – Faith-Based Humanitarianism and Soft Power**

Chair: Karène Sanchez Summerer (University of Groningen)

2:00 pm. – 2:45 pm. – Natalia Liviero (Florida International University)
Faith-Based Development and Humanitarian Aid in the Middle East: A Case Study of Caritas Jordan and Caritas Lebanon

2:45 pm. – 3:30 pm. – William Guerraiche (Abrahamic Family House, Abu Dhabi)
The Emirates: The Religious Dimension of Humanitarian Aid

3:30 pm. – 4:00 pm. – Coffee break

4:00 pm. – 5:30 pm. – **Panel 4 – Moral Grammars, Religious Norms**

Chair: Norig Neveu (IREMAM, CNRS, amU)

4:00 pm. – 4:45 pm. – Marie Kortam (Beyond Compliance Consortium – University of York & War Child Alliance)
Religious Norms, Shari’a, and the Moral Regulation of Harm in Humanitarian Crisis Settings

4:45 pm. – 5:30 pm. – Sebastian Willert (Leibniz Institute for Jewish History and Culture)
Of Jewish Sanctuary and Scholarship: Preaching as a Catalyst for Academic Humanitarianism in Palestine, 1933–1945

5:30 pm. – 6:00 pm. – Final discussion

7:00 pm. – Dinner at Restaurant Lungomare (Krausenstraße 11, Berlin)

19th June 2026

9:00 am. – 10:30 am. – **Panel 5 – Patterns of “Preaching Development”**

Chair: Annalaura Turiano (IREMAM, CNRS, amU, ANR PredicMO)

9:00 am. – 9:45 am. – Zeaad Yaghi (American University of Beirut)
The Rise and Fall of Le Plan Vert: On French-Catholic State Planning and Agricultural Development in Postcolonial Rural Lebanon 1959–1970

9:45 am. – 10:30 am. – Mara Leichtman (Michigan State University)
Preaching Kuwaiti Shi’i Islamic Humanitarianism in East Africa

10:30 am. – 11:00 am. – Coffee break

11:00 am. – 1:15 pm. – **Panel 6 – Discursive Registers: Between Reformism and Moral Rhetorics**

Chair: Malak Labib (Centre Marc Bloch, Fellow of the Gerda Henkel Foundation)

11:00 am. – 11:45 am. – Seda Altuğ (University of Boğaziçi)
Many Ways of Preaching in French-Syria: Appeals of Dominican Missionaries and Entreaties of Locals (1936–1946)

11:45 am. – 12:30 pm. – Foued Ghorbali (Gafsa University)
Prêcher en aidant: pratiques socio-humanitaires, autorité religieuse et circulations transnationales en Tunisie contemporaine

12:30 pm. – 1:15 pm. – Marie Levant (Ifpo, Forum Basiliense Resident Fellow at the University of Basel)
Transnational Catholic Aid to Palestinian Refugees in Lebanon (1948–1958): Moral Norms, Ecclesial Imperatives, and Pastoral Preaching

1:15 pm. – 2:00 pm. – Lunch

2:00 pm. – 3:00 pm. – Review of the Second Day and Publication Prospects