

International Workshop:  
"Religion, Secularism, and Social Thought during the Long Nineteenth Century"  
11<sup>th</sup> November 2022  
University of Marburg, Department of Modern History

Location: Center for Near and Middle Eastern Studies  
(Deutschhausstraße 12), Room: 00A03  
Time: 14:00 - 18:00

**Short Description and Concept:**

Historians in recent years have become increasingly interested in positioning religious and secularist actors as formative agents in modern history. This workshop is dedicated to discussing current research in the intellectual-historical implications of religious and secularist commitments between approximately 1800 and 1960, through a broadly-conceived focus on the interplays between religion, secularism, and ideas of society in Europe and the wider world. The organisers invite papers which will offer frameworks for analysing developments in modern intellectual history in ways suggested by the theme of the workshop. In the context of the workshop's general concern with encounters between religious and secular cultures of knowledge, speakers may wish to address the histories of liberalism; conservatism; socialism; secularisation theory; ideas of historical progress; the history of social science; and empire and decolonisation. It is anticipated that contributions will take the form not so much of work towards specific book chapters or journal articles, but rather of 'position papers' which will distil the themes of participants' wider research agendas in this area. It is hoped that the resulting workshop will open up a discussion about the intellectual creativity of religion, secularism, and the interface between them as the modern world took shape.

**Participants and Working Titles:**

Joshua Bennett (Oxford University):

*Secularism, the science of ethics, and the beginnings of liberal social thought, 1880-1940*

Stefan Berger (University of Bochum):

*Socialism and Religion in Britain and Germany: Comparative Perspectives*

Anton Jansson (University of Gothenburg):

*Histories of the secular and secularist historiography – reflections on comparison and context from a Swedish perspective*

Sophie-Jung Kim (FU Berlin)

*Between Political and Apolitical: Suspensive Spaces of Ashrams*

Nathalie Richard (Le Mans University):

*A History of Ideas in the Human Sciences and debates in 1860s France: An Ideological Background for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Republic*

Benedikt Stuchtey (University of Marburg):

*Religion, Secularism, and Social Thought during the Long Nineteenth Century: Introduction*

**Programme:**

14:00-14:10	Welcome and introduction (Benedikt Stuchtey)
14:10-14:50	Joshua Bennett
14:50-15:30	Sophie-Jung Kim
15:30-15:45	Coffee break
15:45-16:25	Nathalie Richard
16:25-17:05	Stefan Berger
17:05-17:45	Anton Jansson
17:45-18:00	Closing Remarks
19:00	Dinner at ###