

Religion and IR Section Newsletter  
January 2021

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**Note from our Chair**

Welcome to the January 2021 issue of the REL newsletter. A belated happy new year to you all. As you know the ISA 2021 conference will be a virtual event. REL is sponsoring many interesting panels and other events at the conference – details at the end of this newsletter - and I hope you'll be enthused by them and participate.

More generally, REL is expanding its activities and in addition to the well-established Facebook (FB) page – which has around 450 members – REL also has a Twitter page and an active and comprehensive website, with many interesting and useful features. We hope you like what REL offers and will use the FB and Twitter pages, as well as the website, to keep abreast of developments in the section and the wider world of religion and IR. I hope to see many of you at the 2021 conference.

Jeff Haynes, chair, REL

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**Annual Conference News**

**Register for the Annual ISA Conference by February 1!** If you are a presenter at ISA's Annual Conference (April 6-9, 2021) remember to register (and pay your fee) by February 1, 2021. Presenters who don't register by that deadline will be removed from the program.

**Remember also to renew your membership in the Religion and IR section!** The number of panels we can sponsor at the Annual Conference is related to the number of active members in our section, so don't forget REL when you renew!

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## REL-Sponsored Panels at ISA

Plan your ISA participation around our 24 sponsored panels. For your convenience, we've included a list of all our sponsored panels at the end of this newsletter. For more detail on each panel, check the conference program on the ISA website (<https://www.isanet.org/Conferences/ISA2021/Program>).

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## Opportunities on the REL website for Members

Our section has a website (<https://religion-ir.org>). If you haven't been there already, please go check it out. We are building it out as a resource for members and as a tool for keeping the study religion and international relations current and relevant.

As a section, we are committed to advancing scholarly dialogue about religion and IR, particularly the voices of our members. To support this, we are opening two types of opportunities to our members: blogs and news, as well as asking for your help to build this resource.

### Blogs

The REL section has an active blog on our website: <https://religion-ir.org/blog>

The opportunity to author a blog post is now open to our members. If you've got something you want to "put out there" and it's too long for a Tweet, the Religion and IR blog could be a great vehicle for your voice. Optimal length for our blogs is 1,000-2,500 words.

If you are interested in posting a blog, send your blog idea to [Blogs@religion-ir.org](mailto:Blogs@religion-ir.org). Depending on demand, we may develop a schedule of blogs out into the future.

### News

The REL website is a great place to post news about your new book, published article, promotion or job change. This perk for active REL members can contribute to your digital presence, an important aid in the dissemination of your research. Send your news to [News@religion-ir.org](mailto:News@religion-ir.org).

### Contribute to Resources

We'd like to develop the Jobs and Fellowships as a resource to members, but we need your help. Is your department hiring? Have you heard of a great fellowship? Have you seen a non-academic job that would be appropriate for some of our members? Send information on any of these (or at least a link) to: [ISAReligion@religion-ir.org](mailto:ISAReligion@religion-ir.org). The more opportunities we post, the more opportunities we'll attract, and the better the resource becomes for you, our members.

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## **Call for Nominations for Best Graduate Student Paper**

The Graduate Student Paper Award recognizes outstanding contributions to the broadly defined field of Religion and International Relations. It recognizes promising young scholars from a broad scope of disciplines and topics. For the best graduate student paper on Religion and IR, the recipient receives an Award Certificate at the REL section meeting during the ISA Annual Convention. Nominations are open for all graduate student members of ISA who had a paper selected for presentation on a panel sponsored or co-sponsored by Religion and IR at the 2021 Annual Conference.

### **Recipients must meet the Following Criteria**

1. The Recipient must be a current student member of ISA and a graduate student on the paper presentation date. For multi-authored submissions, all contributors must be graduate students on the date the paper was to be presented.
2. The paper must have been selected for presentation at the 2021 ISA Annual Convention.
3. The subject matter of the paper must fall into the broadly defined category of Religion and IR.
4. Nominees must be REL section members.

### **Prize**

- The recipient will receive a certificate at the section meeting during the 2022 ISA Annual Convention.
- Recent recipients are Tanya Schwarz, Gina Giliberti, Moria Bar Maoz, Basileus Zeno, Matthew Isaac, and Jason Klocek.

### **Apply for the Award**

- A short nomination note, abstract, and an electronic copy of the paper should be sent via email by **August 30, 2021** to the committee chair, A. Erdi Öztürk ([e.ozturk@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:e.ozturk@londonmet.ac.uk)).
- Committee members are Prof. Anita Weiss and Dr. Nora Fisher-Onar.
- Self-nominations are welcome.

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## Religion and IR Section Sponsored Sessions

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### Tuesday, April 6, 2021

- 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM TA19: Religion, Aid, and Governance
- 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM TC03: Roundtable on William Bain's book: Political Theology of International Order
- 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM TD03: **Religion & IR 2021 Distinguished Scholar Award Panel Honoring Daniel Philpott**
- 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM TE12: Religious Actorhood and Conflict Intervention
- 8:00 PM - 9:15 PM TI43: Religion, Belief, and Perception in the International System

### Wednesday, April 7, 2021

- 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM WA35: Religion and Security in the Middle East
- 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM WB18: A Hail Mary?: Governmental and Inter-Governmental Religious Engagement Across the Legitimacy Gap
- 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM WB42: Islam, Sectarianism, and Security
- 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM WC24: Islam in International Relations
- 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM WC36: Religion and the Anthropocene
- 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM WD35: New approaches to religion, globalization, and International Relations
- 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM **WD49: Religion and IR Distinguished Scholar Award Panel Honoring Jocelyne Cesari**
- 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM WE36: Reinterpreting Secularism in Different Contexts
- 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM WE39: Quantitative Approaches to Religion and IR 1: Conflicts and Violence
- 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM WF01: Religion in the Foreign Policy of Emerging Powers
- 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM WG04: Civilizational Politics and the Crises of the Liberal International Order
- 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM WG37: Quantitative Approaches to Religion and IR 2: Minorities, Identity, Discrimination, and Sectarianism

### Thursday, April 8, 2021

- 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM RC08: Religion and the Making and Unmaking of the Liberal International Order
- 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM RD45: Political Theology and World Politics: The Continued Relevance of the Theologico-Political in International Relations
- 3:30 PM - 4:45 PM RF17: After Post-Modernity? Intersections of Religion, Memory, and Populist Nationalism
- 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM RG30: The Geopolitics of Religious So Power: Theories and Cases
- 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM RH38: History, Religion and International Relations: An assessment

### Friday, April 9, 2021

- 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM FB31: Powers of Religion and the Histories of Global Society
- 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM FC09: Islam, Islamism, and the Arab Spring