We offer to publish contributions on the open access database Religion and Urbanity Online (https://doi.org/10.1515/urbrel). In order to strengthen comparative and entangled perspectives, we seek to foster projects of co-authorship in addition to welcoming individual contributions.

The conference is part of the DFG-funded Humanities Centre for Advanced Studies Religion and Urbanity: Reciprocal Formations (FOR 2779), based at the Max Weber Centre at the University of Erfurt, Germany.

Image: Entrée d’Henri II à Rouen le premier octobre 1550
Looking at the urban within a large geographical and historical framework, members of the research group “Religion and Urbanity” have observed a great diversity of urban life, both on a material level and on the level of the subjective experience. They have also noted the amplitude of factors contributing to the shaping of the urban, its changes and its varying perceptions: ecological factors and atmospheres are essential, as are monumental and changing sceneries, variable and multi-layered spaces, ideas, aspirations and attitudes, as well as narratives and city images. Moreover, the subjective character of urbanity invites to name audiences and to differentiate actors: urban experiences are shaped by the identity of individuals and groups, their ethnic, social and religious background, their dreams, agendas and values. Our main interest lies in grasping and analysing the essential contribution of religion to this complex layering of the urban, its changes and its varying perceptions: the subjective character of urbanity and the urban is structured and intertwined for mation of urbanity (and vice versa). In other words, our perspective on urbanity and the urban is structured by the prism of the religious.

Wednesday, 16 November 2022 | Retrospectives
14.00 | Opening & Welcome
14.05—14.30 | Susanne Rau & Jörg Rüpk e “Mutual Formations -Looking back at the first four years of UrbRel”
14.30—14.45 | Martin Fuchs “Living Together: Metamorphoses of religious co-existence in Indian urban contexts”
14.45—14.55 | Elisa Iori “Co-spatiality”
15.05—15.05 | Simone Wagner “Heterarchy”
15.05—15.15 | Sara Keller “Spatial Fix”
15.15—15.25 | Martin Christ “Spatialisation”
15.25—16.00 | Break
16.00—17.45 | Comments by Emiliano Urciuoli & discussion

Thursday, 17 November 2022
Authors’ Workshop/ World Café
09.00—10.45 | Round 1
Martin Christ & Sara Keller: “Court Cities as an Urban Typology in Europe and South Asia, c. 1400-1700”
Mara Albrecht, Judit Majorossy & Susanne Rau: “Typologising Cities: Historical and Systematic Reflections”
10.45—11.00 | Break
11.00—12.45 | Round 2
Epsita Halder & Anne Murphy: “The Mutual Emergence of Religious Community Formation and Cultural Production Associated with Urban Development in Early Modern Bengal and Punjab”
13.00 | Lunch

Case Studies, session I
Chair: Enrico Piergiacomini
15.00—15.10 | Nora Lahfi: “Participation, Deliberation and the Nature of Urbanity in North African Cities of the Ottoman Era”
15.10—15.20 | Carmen González Gutiérrez: “The Western Suburbs of an Islamic City: Urban and Human Landscape in Madinat Qurtuba (Córdoba)”
15.20—15.30 | Zoe Opacic: “Staging Urbanity in the Late medieval City: the examples of Prague and Nuremberg”
15.40—15.50 | Laura Verdeli: “Building Chennai’s Waterfronts: Global Models, Dreamed Projects, Ongoing Changes and Their Narratives”
15.50—16.00 | Austin Collins: “Angoulême: Constructing a Royal Connection in the Forgotten Periphery”
16.00—16.15 | Coffee Break
16.15—18.15 | Discussion
19.00 | Dinner

Friday, 18 November 2022
Case Studies, session 2
Chair: Kristine Iara
09.00—09.20 | Jörg Oberste and Babett Edelmann-Singer: “Ruler’s Seat and Sacral Topography - Foundations of Pre-Modern Metropolises”
09.00—09.10 | Babett Edelmann-Singer: “Imperial Funerals and Concepts of Urbanities in Rome and Constantinople”
09.10—09.20 | Jörg Oberste: “Royal Funerals and Saints’ Topography in Merovingian Paris”
09.20—09.30 | Nimrod Luz: “Contemporary Urbanity and Religious Sites: A View from Tel Aviv Urban Religion, Decolonization and Gray Spacing”
09.30—09.40 | Naveen Kanalu: “Mapping Imperial Privileges and Property Claims: Practicing Hanafi Law in Mughal Delhi’s Suburban Agglomerations (c. 1680s)”
09.40—09.50 | Supriya Chaudhuri: “History and Memory in Urban Space: A Case Study from Varanasi”
10.00—10.10 | Marlis Arnhold: “Urbes non magnae: Macedonian Cities and the Question of Urbanity”
10.10—10.25 | Break
10.25—12.45 | Discussion & Closing with Susanne Rau and Sara Keller

13.00 | Lunch & Goodbye

Find this information also on our blog: