

Seminar (Working languages: Italian and English with simultaneous translation)

WOMEN, FAITH AND CULTURE

14 NOVEMBER 2018 | 9:15 – 17:30

ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
PIAZZALE DELLA FARNESINA, 1 – ROME (Sala Aldo Moro - Ground floor)

AGENDA

8:30-9:15 Registration of participants

9:15-9:45 **Opening remarks**

AVV. MOAVERO MILANESI, Italian Minister of Foreign affairs and International Cooperation

MRS. CALLISTA L. GINGRICH, US Ambassador to the Holy See

MRS. MAY MAKHZOUMI, President of Makhzoumi Foundation (Lebanon)

9:45-10:45 **CONTEMPORARY ISLAMIC “EXEGESIS” PERTAINING TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN**
How much weight do cultural customs play in Islamic scriptural exegesis? Does Islamic scriptural exegesis vary across national boundaries?

Chair: **DIEGO SARRIÒ CUCARELLA**, Professor and Rector of the Pontifical Institute for Islamic and Arabic Studies

Kick Off: **AZIZAH AL-HIBRI**, Emeritus Professor of Law, Founder and Chair of KARAMAH Foundation

Respondent: **SARA BORRILLO**, Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Naples “L'Orientale”

Open discussion with participants

10:45-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:15 **THE WOMAN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF CATHOLIC PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY**
In what ways has the notion of the woman evolved in Post-Vatican II Catholic Social Teaching and philosophy? Do modern feminist trends have anything to contribute to modern Church understanding on the role and status of women in society?

Chair: **GIORGIA SALATIELLO**, Professor of Philosophy at Gregorian University

Kick Off: **ANGELA ALES BELLO**, Emeritus Professor and Former Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Lateran University

Respondent: **FRANCESCA BREZZI**, Professor of Moral Philosophy and President of the Observatory of Gender Studies at Roma Tre University

Open discussion with participants

12:15-13:30 Lunch Buffet

13:30-14:30 **THE WOMAN IN JEWISH THOUGHT AND LIFESTYLE: ORTHODOX, CONSERVATIVE AND REFORMED PERSPECTIVES**
What does Judaism teach about the role and place of women in society? What are some of the female role-models in the Hebrew Bible that Jewish men and women of all denominations can look up to?

Chair: **RABBI JOSEPH LEVI**

Kick Off: **RABBI NAOMI KALISH**, Coordinator of Pastoral Care and Education at NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital

Respondent: **RABBI JACK BEMPORAD**, Director of the Center for Interreligious Understanding (USA)

Open discussion with participants

14:30-15:30 **Religions and the rights of women**
What contribution can Judaism, Christianity and Islam offer to modern discourse on the rights and role of women in society?

Chair: **PROF. FRANCESCO ZANINI**, Professor at the Pontifical Institute for Islamic and Arabic Studies

Kick Off: **NOUZHA GUESSOUS**, Professor at Hassan II University (Casablanca)

Respondent: **JOLANDA GUARDI**, Professor of Arabic Literature at the University of Macerata

Open discussion with participants

15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

16:00-17:00 **International policies and the rights of women**
How can religious and secular actors both collaborate to design women rights policies? What role can governments play in their implementation?

Chair: **SILVIA COLOMBO**, Head of the Mediterranean & Middle East Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)

Kick Off: **JOCELYNE CESARI**, Professor of Religion and Politics at the University of Birmingham

Respondent: **AMINEH HOTI**, Center for Dialogue & Action (Islamabad)

Open discussion with participants

17:00 – 17:15 **Final remarks (TBD)**

17:15 – 17:30 **Conclusions and recommendations**