



Research group of religious studies of the
Centre of Excellence in Cultural Theory (Estonia)
announces a call for papers for its conference

Old religion and new spirituality: continuity and changes in the background of secularization

University of Tartu, Estonia, 26-29 May 2015

Estonia is an extremely secularized European country, characterized by the diminishing institutionalization of religion (de-institutionalization) and the decline of the Christian practices and beliefs (de-Christianization). In order to investigate the historical roots of the situation and clarify the characteristics of the current picture, the research project about religiosity in Estonia was started in 2011. The staff of the project welcomes the researchers dealing with the religious situation in various regions and countries of Europe in order to make comparisons of certain features of the changing religious landscape. Papers that address contemporary developments or provide a historical perspective will be accepted.

Particularly interesting aspects may include:

- historical process of secularization, its specific features in different countries;
- combinations of religion and nationalism, effects of nationalism on public religion;
- changes in the traditional religious groups and churches in 21st century;
- atheism and nonreligion, their organized and individual manifestations;
- new spirituality, "New Age" and individual religiousness, mixed forms of organized and individual religion.

Invited speakers include: **Stephen Bullivant** (St Mary's University, Twickenham), **Abby Day** (University of Kent), **Paul Heelas** (Erasmus University Rotterdam), **Detlef Pollack** (University of Münster).

The language of the conference is English. The length of papers: 20 minutes. A conference fee 80€ will be applied for meals and materials, the participants are expected to pay for their travel and accommodation. The organizers plan to publish a selection of papers.

Please send abstracts of papers of 250-300 words to the conference e-mail: **orns@ut.ee** **before 01.01.2015**. Pre-arranged panels are to be considered as well. Notification of acceptance and opening of the registration: 01.02.2015.

For further inquiries you may also contact Riho Altnurme: riho.altnurme@ut.ee

Constantly updated information about the conference can be found at our home page <http://orns.ut.ee/>