

From Reformation to Reformations

On Analogies, Ideals and Ideas

HDC-ACRH CONFERENCE

Wednesday and Thursday September 20-21, 2017

PThU-zaal (1E-24)

The Historical Documentation Centre for Dutch Protestantism at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VUA) invites you for the conference 'From Reformation to Reformations. On Analogies, Ideals and Ideas'. This conference will be held on Wednesday 20 and Thursday 21 September 2017 in the PThU-zaal at the Vrije Universiteit.

Over the centuries, the historical events of the Reformation movement, tentatively dated to have started in 1517 Wittenberg, have acquired additional meanings. Later generations developed the Reformation into a model, metaphor or ideal, through which they detached 'Reformation' from its immediate historical context and made it either a *process* or a *principle*. As a process, 'Reformation' was meant to be continued, updated, re-evaluated, and even emulated in new contexts. As a principle, 'Reformation' could both function as a supposedly objective 'ideal' to correct contemporary circumstances, or as a model which can be transferred to other domains: religions, cultural, political and social



movements. An iconized view of the Reformation could thus function, for example, as an ideal and/or analogy for 'Reform Judaism' and a (search for an) 'Islamic Reformation'. This conference aims to contribute to the developing field of cross-cultural religious and cultural studies by analyzing the cultural, political and linguistic uses of the 'Reformation' in the modern era, from *circa* 1800 until the present day. It asks how and why modern movements, intellectuals and politicians referred to the 'Reformation' – as historical event, process, or principle. It will highlight how in modernity,

‘Reformation’ oscillated between a static, historic definition on the one hand, and a dynamic and subjective interpretation on the other. The focus of this conference will be primarily on (post-)modern uses of the ‘Reformation’ outside the strict context of Protestant theology, but in various other religious traditions and societies.

The conference is open to all visitors. Entrance fee is € 30 and includes coffee and tea, payable to IBAN: NL86 INGB 0001 1680 01 BIC: INGBNL2A mentioning ‘Reformation’. At the same time please register at: hdc@vu.nl before September 8. or (0031) (0)20-598 5270.

PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

13:00

Welcome Addresses

☞ George Harinck, HDC director

☞ Hagit Amirav, ACRH director

13:15

From Historic Reformation to the Reformation as Ideal

☞ Bart Wallet, VUA: The Reformation, a Conceptual History

☞ Fred van Lieburg, VUA: Early Modern Reformations

Tea break

14:45

The Reformation and the World Religions: Judaism, Islam, and Hinduism

☞ Abraham Melamed, Haifa University: From Law to Religion: The ‘Protestantisation’ of Judaism in Modern Times

☞ Els Kooij-Bas, Christian University Ede: Between *Zeitgeist* and *Torah im Derekh Erez*: Or how modern Europe gave birth to both Reform Judaism and Orthodox Reformation

☞ Mohammad Nafissi, King’s College London: Islamic Reformation in Evolving Modern Contexts

☞ J. Barton Scott, University of Toronto: ‘Luther in the Tropes’: Reformation Analogies in Hinduism

16:45

☞ Book presentation Theo van Staalduine (ed.) *De reformatie. Breuk in de Europese geschiedenis en cultuur*, Walburg Pers 2017.

17:00

Reception

19:00

Dinner

THURSDAY 21 SEPTEMBER

9:00

Secular Reformations

☞ [Wim Berkelaar](#), VUA: The Reformation as a Model for Communism

☞ [Amanda Kluveld](#), Maastricht University: A Digital Reformation and a Reformation of the Digital

☞ [David Schmiedel](#), Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg: The played Reformation: Implementation and reception of the Reformation in current computer games illustrated by the example *Europa Universalis IV (Mandate of Heaven)*

10:30

Coffee break

11:00

Catholic and Orthodox Reformations

☞ [Andreas Oberdorf](#), Wilhelms-Universität Münster: Negotiating Faith: The Encounter of Protestants and Catholics in 18th century Pennsylvania

☞ [Agnieczka Zaganczyk-Neufeld](#), Ruhr-Universität Bochum: The 'Refomation' in the Russian Orthodox Christianity – a Political and an Analytical Context

12:00

Lunch

13:00

Continuing Reformations

☞ [George Harinck](#), VUA: The Concept of the Reformation in Neo-Calvinism

☞ [Tom-Eric Krijger](#), Leiden University: Standing on Luther's Shoulders: The Concept of the Reformation in Pre-World War II Dutch Liberal Protestantism

☞ [Gert van Klinken](#), Protestant Theological University Amsterdam: The Reformation in the newborn State of Israel (1948-1958)

14:30

Tea break

15:00

Radical Reformations

☞ [Devin C. Manzullo-Thomas](#), Messiah College, Mechanicsburg PA: (Un)Becoming "Radicals": Public Memory, Collective Identity, and the Dynamic Uses of the Protestant Reformation in North American Mennonite History

☞ [Koos-jan de Jager](#), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam: Revived Reformation. William A. Fetler (1883-1957) and the New Reformation in Russia and the Baltic

16:00

Concluding remarks

How to get to Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam De Boelelaan 1105 Amsterdam

Public transport

From Central Station

Metro tram 51, direction Amstelveen Westwijk (16 min.), stop at: De Boelelaan/VU

Tram 5, direction Amstelveen Binnenhof (25 min.), stop at: De Boelelaan/VU

[From Station Amsterdam Zuid](#). It's a 10 minute walk to the VU from Station Amsterdam Zuid

Express tram 51 (1 minute), direction Amstelveen Westwijk

Tram 5 (1 minute), direction Amstelveen Binnenhof

Car

The A-10 Amsterdam ring road can be reached from all directions. Follow the A-10 to the Zuid/Amstelveen exit S 108. Turn left at the end of the slip road onto Amstelveenseweg: after about three hundred yards (at the VU University hospital building) turn left again onto De Boelelaan. VU University can be reached via city routes S 108 and S 109.

Parking

There is a very limited amount of parking space around Vrije Universiteit itself in De Boelelaan, which has parking bays, and also in Gustav Mahlerlaan. There is paid parking on VU Amsterdam parking lot to the right of the Hospital Outpatient Clinic. A number of parking places for the handicapped are reserved in front of Vrije Universiteit Main Building.

Schiphol Airport

Travellers arriving at Schiphol can take the train to Station Amsterdam Zuid (see [Public transport: from Station Amsterdam Zuid](#)).

Information

Historisch Documentatiecentrum: hdc@vu.nl | www.hdc.vu.nl | +31(0)20 598 5270.

PThU-zaal (1E-24)

You will find the PThU-zaal (Conference Room) De Boelelaan 1105 Amsterdam, Mainbuilding, first floor, E-wing, roomnumber 1E-24.



AMSTERDAM CENTRE
FOR RELIGIOUS HISTORY



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