



university of
 groningen

faculty of theology and
 religious studies

Religion and the Urban, Natural and Virtual Environments

An Online Conversation
27th August 2020, 2-4pm (CEST)

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Dr. Giulia Evolvi
Erasmus University Rotterdam

“The Church Never Closed”: Digital Religion, Space, and Materiality

COVID-19 forced religious communities to create online environments of practice and connection, making it more compelling to study digital religion. This presentation looks at cases of digital religion to reflect upon the relevance of space and materiality within Internet environments to reproduce physical practices and negotiate identities.



Prof. Dr. Jens Köhrsen
University of Basel

A Climatic Change in Religion? From Religious Greening to Non-Greening and Un-Greening

Scholarship supposes that rising environmental concern provoked by climate change and other forms of environmental degradation leads to transformations in organised religions. Drawing on empirical research, this contribution critically explores the assumed “greening of religions”. To this end, it proposes three ideal types: greening, non-greening, and ungreening.



Dr. Pooyan Tamimi Arab
Utrecht University

Secularization and Religious Diversity in Iran 2020

The 1979 Islamic Revolution is a defining event for the sociology of religion’s self-critique of linear accounts of secularization. This presentation shows the first results of a digital survey on religion designed and conducted by Ammar Maleki and Pooyan Tamimi Arab in June 2020 with over 50,000 respondents. The effective sample reveals significant secularization and religious variation among Iranians, the vast majority of whom live in cities and are connected to the Internet.

