International Workshop
"Orthodox Christianity in Minority Contexts: Community Formation, Shifting Boundaries, and Multiple Belongings"

10-11 December 2026
Centre for International Studies, Sciences Po, Paris

Program

Each panel includes 20 minutes of discussion followed by 20 minutes of Q&A.

10 DECEMBER 2026

14:00-14:30 – OPENING REMARKS

Marilou Achard (Passages, Université Bordeaux Montaigne/CNRS), Elisabeth Miljkovic (Center for International Studies, Sciences Po/CNRS) and Kathy Rousselet (Center for International Studies, Sciences Po/CNRS)

14:30-16:00 – PANEL 1: Orthodox Communities in France: Between Institutional Boundaries and Lived Belonging

Marilou Achard (Passages, Université Bordeaux Montaigne/CNRS) - *"From Maps to the Faithful: Questioning Cartographic Representations of Russian-Tradition Orthodoxy in France"*

Kristina Kovalskaya (GSRL, EPHE-PSL/CNRS; Université Paris 8) - *"To Deal with a Heavy Belonging: How the War in Ukraine Reshaped the Borders and the Networks of Russian Orthodox Communities in Paris and Surroundings"*

16:00-16:15 – COFFEE BREAK

16:15-17:45 – PANEL 2: Making Orthodoxy Local

Katerina Seraïdari (Centre of Art History "El Greco", Institute for Mediterranean Studies/FORTH) - *"Building an Autochthonous French Orthodoxy: The Celtic Orthodox Church and the Église Catholique Orthodoxe Française, ECOF"*

Kira Kaurinkoski (IDEAS, Aix-Marseille Université/CNRS) - *"Reflections on the Contemporary Reconfigurations of National and Cultural Forms of Belonging within the Finnish Orthodox Church"*

19:30 – DINNER

11 DECEMBER 2026

09:30-11:00 – PANEL 3: Negotiating Orthodox Belongings across Borders, Historical Perspectives

Anna Sidorevich (Centre for History, Sciences Po) - *"Crossing and Reinforcing Boundaries? Tat'iana Goricheva as an Orthodox Missionary in the West"*

Nadezhda Beliakova (Department of East European History, Bielefeld University) - *"Between Jurisdictions, Languages, and Countries: Multiple Belongings in Orthodox Communities in Germany during the Long Perestroika"*

11:00-11:15 – COFFEE BREAK

11:15-12:45 – PANEL 4: War and the Remaking of Orthodox Communities in Contemporary Germany

Maximilian Kunte (Department of Political Science, LUISS Guido Carli University) - *"Eastern Slavic Orthodox Identity and Church Division in Germany"*

Zhanna Timofeeva (Ecumenical Institute, University of Münster) - *"Negotiating Orthodox Belonging in Migration: The Case of Ukrainian Refugees to Germany"*

12:45-14:15 – LUNCH

14:15-16:10 – PANEL 5: Religious Choices and Practices: Negotiating Identities Beyond Jurisdictions?

Marco Guglielmi (FISPPA, University of Padua) - "*Towards an Italian Orthodoxy? The (Slow) Process of Indigenisation among the Orthodox Churches in Italy"*

Artemis Skrepeti (CANTHEL, Université Paris Cité) - *"When the Margins Speak: Old Calendarist Priests, Folk Magic, and the Contested Boundaries of Orthodoxy in Rural Laconia, Greece"*

Jeanne Kormina (GSRL, EPHE-PSL/CNRS; Yerevan Center for International Education) - *"Finding the 'Right' Orthodoxy: Making a Religious Life in Emigration"*

16:10-16:25 – COFFEE BREAK

16:25-17:15 – CLOSING REMARKS

Maria Hämmerli (Religious Studies Unit, University of Fribourg) and Detelina Tocheva (GSRL, CNRS/EPHE-PSL)

17:15-17:45 – POST-CONFERENCE PANEL DISCUSSION