

ESITIS Conference 2011

Pre-Arrival / Welcome Letter

The Study of Religions in a Changing Europe: Integrity, Translation & Transformation

Istanbul, April 26-29, 2011

<http://www.ecumenics.ie/research/intercultural-theology/conference-istanbul-2011/>

Dublin / istanbul 11 April 2011

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On behalf of the ESITIS board, we are delighted to welcome you among the participants of the ESITIS Conference 2011, co-sponsored by **the Theological Faculty at Marmara University** and the **Irish School of Ecumenics at Trinity College Dublin**.

- This ESITIS conference seeks to explore contemporary challenges and prospects of the **Study of Religions in a Changing (Wider) Europe Today**, faced with issues centering around integrity, translation and transformation. A first distinct contextual feature of the conference is its location in Istanbul, which allows us to make use of the expertise of colleagues at Marmara University and scholarly friends from Turkey. The second feature and novelty is that this conference is designed so to intersect with a 2-week European Intensive Programme (IP) for PhD and postgraduate students from 20 European countries focusing on the theme **Translating Gods: Islam and Christianity in Southeast Europe**. You find the full programme including abstracts and schedule of parallel paper presentations, accommodation and transport / direction details etc. on the updated website above.
- **Attached Lists:** Among the attachments to this letter we include first a "**List of Participants**", both of the ESITIS conference guests proper and the student participants of the European Intensive Programme. Second you find three "**Accommodation Lists**" of the hotels (Aden Hotel / Dila Hotel / Zübeyde Hanım Guest House) where we have placed you, if you either did a full-package booking with us or if you are an invited speaker. Please, look through these

lists for your name and hotel. For any changes or corrections, please, email us quickly at translating.gods@tcd.ie

All accommodations arranged with us are on the **Asian side** in the area of **KADIKÖY**. Please, do check on our website and print-off transport and directions to your respective hotel/accommodation. If your arrival is tight, you may choose to take a taxi for your arrival day. There will be shuttle buses from the hotels to the conference sites in the morning and in the evening of April 27 to 29.

- **!IMPORTANT NOTE: Registration and Opening on April 26** is at the **Ibrahim Uzuncu Conference Hall** of the main campus of Marmara University, called **Goztepe Campus** (not at the Ilahiyat Faculty at the Baglarbasi campus, where we will be only from April 27 onwards!). This is also on the **Asian side and not far from KADIKÖY**, where all accommodations are. Do print-off the respective pages of direction for the opening day from our website! At each hotel we will have someone helping conference participants to get there. People arriving tight, shall best go directly to the Goztepe campus by public transport or taxi and check in at their hotels only after the opening programme.
- With **April 27, the conference programme** will be held at the Theological Faculty (Ilahiyat) on the Baglarbasi campus of Marmara University. Cf. directions on the website.
- **Lunches** will be provided on campus. **Dinners** will be left for participants to branch out into neighboring restaurants. For April 27, we are invited by Marmara University to a light **dinner on a boat** on the Bosphorus.
- **Reimbursement:** Speakers and participants with whom we agreed on travel reimbursements, please bring the complete reimbursement form (which you have received by email before) together with your travel documents, including the in-bound boarding pass. Reimbursement documents will be taken at a designated location during lunch breaks of April 27 and 28.

We are very much looking forward to an exciting conference and to see you soon. For any inquiries, please, do contact us at translating.gods@tcd.ie or, once in Turkey, at rahimacar@hotmail.com

Dr. Rahim Acar

Razva Aydin

Dr. Norbert Hintersteiner

Egle Zinkutee