Within RELIGARE, PRISME (Strasbourg) is in charge of the thematic Work package dedicated to the State Support, in the context of increasing religious and cultural diversity. Research in this Work package is focused on questions regarding the legitimacy for the State to continue the financial support of Churches, religious and faith-based organizations in present-day context. The research will be completed with a study of the relevance of the various methods of financial support and a prospective thinking on possible new models.

PRISME (Policies, Religions, Institutions and Societies: European Transformations) is a joint research unit of the University of Strasbourg and the CNRS, including the research centre SDRE (Society, Law and Religion in Europe) Research at the SDRE focuses on law and religion, canon law, the social sciences of religion and European law on human rights. http://sdre.misha.fr/
INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

Religion in the Media: Religious Broadcasting and the Role of the State

26 April 2012

Boekman Foundation, Fides et Scientia
Herengracht 415, 1017 BP AMSTERDAM

Religion in the Media - Religious Broadcasting and the Role of the State

This seminar is dedicated to the various religious broadcasting regimes in force in Europe today. Presentations particularly cover countries under study in the FP 7 Religare project, a project that, in a Work Package on State Support, includes the research of ‘new elements’ of state support for religion that are closely linked with religious manifestation and expression like religious broadcasting (including television, radio, internet, etc.). Regarding television, there is a tendency to include programmes about religion in the regular package.

Different questions are to be answered here. Are mass media seen by state authorities as important tools in the dialogue between and about religions? How do the national media regulations / systems respond to the growing pluralisation of the national landscapes? Are the choices on a national level conditioned by the inherited church & state-traditions? In both types of ‘religious presence’ (religious broadcasting and broadcasting on religion), where government policies are concerned, questions can be raised on state neutrality. Has the State a role to play? And if so, what are the boundaries the State has to respect?

This conference brings together a number of scholars from various EU countries.

09.00-09.30  Coffee & registration

09.30-09.45 Welcome adress / introduction

Morning session

chair: Mathias Rohe (University of Erlangen)

09.45-10.15 Religion and media, the responsibilities of the State in a context of European and international law,
Adriaan Overbeeke (VU University, Amsterdam / Visor),
Anne Fornerod (CNRS University of Strasbourg),

10.15-12.30 Regulating Religion & Media in a dominant Church environment

(I) Denmark: Henrik Reintoft Christensen (Aarhus University)
(II) United Kingdom: Jim McDonnell (Trinity and All Saints College, Leeds)

12.30-14.00 Lunch break

Afternoon session

chair: Tymen van der Ploeg (VU University, Amsterdam)

14.00-16.30 Regulating Media in Separation systems

(I) Belgium: Louis-Léon Christians (UCL, Louvain la Neuve)
(II) The Netherlands: Johan Wolswinkel (VU University Amsterdam - NILG)
(III) France: Jacques Gayot (University Paris 8 - CEMTI)

16.30-17.00 Religion is in the air - Religion in a changing media context.
Joan Hemels (University of Amsterdam - ASCoR)

17.00-17.30 Final discussion - concluding remarks

This event is co-organised by the department of Constitutional and Administrative Law of the Free University of Amsterdam (VISOR) and PRISME-SDRE (CNRS, University of Strasbourg, France).