

Culture and Religion in International Relations

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Yosef Lapid

Department of Government
New Mexico State University
Las Cruces, NM, USA

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Mariano P. Barbato
Editor

The Pope, the Public, and International Relations

Postsecular Transformations

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Editor

Mariano P. Barbato
Center for Religion and Modernity
University of Münster
Münster, Germany

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The volume is the fruit of the efforts of many people who supported and contributed to the project *Legions of the Pope: A Case Study in Social and Political Transformation*. I can only mention a few but would like to express my gratitude to all of them.

Most of the chapters started their life as conference papers presented at the *Popes on the Rise!* Conference in March 2017, which was held at the Roman Institute of the Görres Society at the Campo Santo Teutonico in Rome, very close to the Vatican. I would like to thank in particular Prof. Stefan Heid, Director of the Roman Institute, who was a wonderful host and co-organizer. Many thanks to all the supporters and contributors who turned the conference into an impressive event. I would like to mention in particular my colleagues at the Center for Religion and Modernity of the University of Munster who supported the project, the conference, and the book. A special thanks goes to Johannes Löffler for his excellent assistance.

The conference took place in the same week when, for the first time, the heads of governments of the European Union met jointly with the pontiff. This coincidence can be taken as a sign that the ongoing post-secular transformations of the International and the Public are, indeed, worth a longer and more focused look. I thank all the presenters at the conference and those who joined later for their contributions.

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Münster, Germany
January 2020

Mariano P. Barbato

PRAISE FOR *THE POPE, THE PUBLIC, AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS*

“‘The Papacy’ and ‘modernity’ are two terms that rarely intersect in international relations, but it will be impossible to ignore the former’s impact on the latter—and vice versa—after reading this fascinating book. Through multiple forms of intertextual analysis, from a stroll through Paris to the Pope’s Twitter feed to examinations of individual Popes and the Papacy’s impact in radically different parts of the world, this book reconfigures our conceptions of time and space to foreground the dynamic nature of Papal politics in contemporary world politics.”

—Cecilia M. Lynch, *Professor, University of California, Irvine, USA*

“This is not the first IR work paying attention to the Holy See. None, however, matches this volume, edited by one of the most promising IR scholars of his generation, Marian Barbato. The volume is multidisciplinary, not ‘monochrome,’ but very colorful with contributors from many countries with the background not just in IR or political science but, in the humanities, including among other a philosopher, an art historian, scholar of religion, literary scholar. Barbato begins by taking you for a walk through Paris, the city that rose during the long—and for modern international relations pivotal—19th century to the capital of secular nationalism showing the undeniable and enduring entanglements of the public, religion, and world affairs.

The multidisciplinary tesserae the contributors put together into a mosaic is an alternative to the foundational IR narrative excluding or

playing down religion. You are invited to re-think Western history; you are led to consider new perspectives on the global transformation. The Holy See is a ‘hybrid actor’ on the world scene, merging religious and political but also international and transnational elements. In the uncertain fluid 21st century, with the use of media technology, there may be others.”

—Vendulka Kubalkova, *University of Miami, Florida, USA*

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Mariano P. Barbato is Professor for Political Science at the University of Passau and Heisenberg Fellow of the German Research Foundation at the Center for Religion and Modernity, University of Munster (426657443, 288978882). His articles appeared in journals such as *Millennium*, *Review of International Politics*, *Journal of International Relations and Development*, and *European Political Science Review*. He co-edited the *Review of Faith and International Affairs* special issue on the Holy See and is author and editor of several books, including *Pilgrimage, Politics, and International Relations: Religious Semantics for World Politics* (New York: Palgrave, 2012).

Melanie Barbato holds a doctorate in Indology and Religious Studies from LMU Munich. She is based at the University of Munster, where she is researching the involvement of the Vatican and the World Council of Churches in Hindu–Christian relations (DFG project 411280951). She has co-edited the book *Wege zum digitalen Papsttum: Der Vatikan im Wandel medialer Öffentlichkeit* (2018).

Frank Bösch is Director of the Leibniz-Center for Contemporary History in Potsdam and Professor of European Twentieth Century History at the University of Potsdam. He is author of several books, including *Media and Historical Change* (2015), and *Zeitenwende 1979* (2019).

Belén Castro-Fernández is Lecturer in Didactics of Social Sciences and Vice Dean of the Faculty of Education of the University of Santiago. She earned a doctorate in Art History with a work on historicist restorations on the Camino de Santiago and has published in various international journals on the subject of contemporary pilgrimages.

Chiara De Franco is Associate Professor in International Relations and Deputy Head of the Center for War Studies at the University of Southern Denmark. She is the author of *Media Power and the Transformation of War* (2012) and *Warning about War: Conflict, Persuasion, and Foreign Policy* (2019).

Jörg Friedrichs (Dr. Phil., LMU Munich) is Associate Professor of Politics at the Department of International Development and Official Fellow of St Cross College, University of Oxford. His latest book is on *Hindu-Muslim Relations: What Europe Might Learn from India* (2018). He has also worked on Muslim minorities and their relations with non-Muslim majorities in China and England. His articles have appeared in peer-reviewed journals such as *International Organization*, *International Theory*, *Third World Studies*, and *Philosophical Psychology*.

Rubén C. Lois González is Professor of Geography at the University of Santiago de Compostela (Spain) and Vice President of the International Geographical Union (IGU/UGI). He has published a study on peregrinations and Cultural Geography in journals such as *Tourism Geographies*, *Tourism Management Perspectives*, *Culture and Religion*, *Mobilities and Gender*, and *Place and Culture*.

Katharina McLarren is currently the Deputy Director of the Franken-Akademie in Bavaria. She previously worked as researcher and lecturer at the University of Passau, focusing on religion in IR theories and FPA. She holds a B.Sc. in International Relations from the London School of Economics and an M.A. in Governance and Public Policy from the University of Passau and is pursuing her Ph.D. in International Relations.

Francisco Javier Ramón Solans is Juan de la Cierva Researcher at the University of Zaragoza, Spain. He has a Ph.D. in history from the University of Zaragoza and the University of Paris 8, and has been a research fellow in France, the United States, and Germany. He has published several articles in peer-reviewed journals such as *Annales HSS*, *Annales Historiques de la Révolution Française*, *Politics, Religion & Ideology*,

Hispania, and *Ayer*. He is the author of *La Virgen del Pilar dice... Usos políticos y nacionales de un culto mariano en la España contemporánea* (2014) and he has co-edited with Roberto Di Stefano, *Marian Devotions, Political Mobilization, and Nationalism in Europe and America* (2016).

Bernhard Stahl (Ph.D) is Professor of International Politics and currently Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Passau. From 2009 to 2011 he was Senior Lecturer in an M.A. program for Palestinian, Israeli, and Jordanian students at the University of Düsseldorf. His research areas cover European foreign policy (German, French, and EU in particular), identity theory, and comparative regionalism. Recent publications examine domestic legitimation of military intervention and identity-related problems in the accession process as well as the phenomenon of “silencing” of mass atrocities.

Tassilo Wanner is the VP Global Public & Regulatory Affairs of Liliium, the global technology leader in the newly evolving air taxi industry. Prior to joining Liliium, he served as a senior manager at the strategy consultancy McKinsey & Company, where he focused on client projects in the areas of strategy, organization, and change management. Tassilo Wanner had started his professional career in different political planning and strategic communication roles for the parliamentary leadership in the German Bundestag as well as for the German Federal Minister of the Interior in Berlin. He studied at LMU Munich and Georgetown University, and earned a doctorate in political science and modern history.

Ryszard Zajăczkowski is a literary scholar and philosopher from the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin. In the years 1997–1999, he was a lecturer at the Catholic University of Eichstätt and a scholarship holder at the American universities of Yale (2005) and Harvard (2011), as well as at Tokyo University of Foreign Studies (2015). He is the author of five monographs as well as many articles devoted to nineteenth- and twentieth-century literature, editor, contributing editor of the book series *The Literary Dimension of Culture*, publicist, and translator of more than a hundred books.

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