

SEMINAR

Women, Faith and Culture

at the ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
PIAZZA DELLA FARNESINA, 1 – 00135 ROME, ITALY

November 14, 2018

Progress usually tends to be measured according to the criteria of science and technology. Nor from this point of view has the contribution of women been negligible. Even so, this is not the only measure of progress, nor in fact is it the principal one. Much more important is the social and ethical dimension, which deals with human relations and spiritual values. In this area, which often develops in an inconspicuous way beginning with the daily relationships between people, especially within the family, society certainly owes much to the "genius of women".

POPE JOHN PAUL II TO WOMEN (June 29, 1995)

Patronage



Sponsors





IFII FOUNDATION



Program | SEMINAR Women, Faith and Culture

Simultaneous translation from English to Italian will be available during the seminar

8:30 am **REGISTRATION**

9:15 am **OPENING REMARKS**

Avv. Enzo Moavero Milanese – *Minister Foreign affairs International Cooperation* - TBC
Mrs. Callista L. Gingrich – *US Ambassador to the Holy See*
Mrs. May Makhzoumi – *President Makhzoumi Foundation (Lebanon)*

9:45 – 10:45 am **CONTEMPORARY ISLAMIC “EXEGESIS” PERTAINING TO THE STATUS OF WOMEN**

How much weight do cultural customs play in Islamic scriptural exegesis?
Does Islamic scriptural exegesis vary across national boundaries?

CHAIR: **Diego Sarriò Cucarella**, *Professor and Rector of the Pontifical Institute for Islamic and Arabic Studies*

KICK OFF: **Azizah al-Hibri**, *Emeritus Professor of Law, Founder and Chair of KARAMAH Foundation*

RESPONDENT: **Sara Borrillo, Ph.D.**, *Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, University of Naples “L’Orientale”*

OPEN DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS

10:45 – 11:15 am **COFFEE BREAK**

11:15 – 12:15 am **THE WOMAN IN CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF CATHOLIC PHILOSOPHY AND THEOLOGY**

In what ways has the notion of the woman evolved in Post-Vatican II Catholic Social Teaching and philosophy? Do modern feminist trends have anything to contribute to modern Church understanding on the role and status of women in society?

CHAIR: **Giorgia Salatiello**, *Professor of Philosophy at Gregorian University*

KICK OFF: **Angela Ales Bello**, *Emeritus Professor and Former Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy, Lateran University*

RESPONDENT: **Francesca Brezzi**, *Professor of Moral Philosophy and President of the Observatory of Gender Studies at University Roma Tre.*

OPEN DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS

12.15 am – 1.30 pm **LUNCH BUFFET**

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm **THE WOMAN IN JEWISH THOUGHT AND LIFESTYLE: ORTHODOX, CONSERVATIVE AND REFORMED PERSPECTIVES**

What does Judaism teach about the role and place of women in society? What are some of the female role-models in the Hebrew Bible that Jewish men and women of all denominations can look up to?

CHAIR: **Rabbi Joseph Levi**, *Emeritus Chief Rabbi of Florence*

KICK OFF: **Rabbi Naomi Kalish**, *Coordinator of Pastoral Care and Education at NewYork-Presbyterian Morgan Stanley Children’s Hospital*

RESPONDENT: **Rabbi Jack Bemporad**, *Director of the Center for Interreligious Understanding (USA)*

OPEN DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **RELIGIONS AND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN**

What contribution can Judaism, Christianity and Islam offer to modern discourse on the rights and role of women in society?

CHAIR: **Francesco Zannini**, *Professor at the Pontifical Institute for Islamic and Arabic Studies*

KICK OFF: **Nouzha Guessous**, *Professor at Hassan II University (Casablanca)*

RESPONDENT: **Jolanda Guardi**, *Professor of Arabic Literature at the University of Macerata*

OPEN DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm **COFFEE BREAK**

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm **INTERNATIONAL POLICIES AND THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN**

How can religious and secular actors both collaborate to design women rights policies? What role can governments play in their implementation?

CHAIR: **Silvia Colombo**, *Head of the Mediterranean & Middle East Programme, Institute for International Affairs*

KICK OFF: **Jocelyne Cesari**, *Professor of Religion and Politics at the University of Birmingham*

RESPONDENT: **Amineh Hoti**, *Executive Director of the Center for Dialogue & Action (Islamabad)*

OPEN DISCUSSION WITH PARTICIPANTS

5:00pm – 5:15 pm **FINAL REMARKS (TBD)**

5:15 pm – 5:30 pm **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**