

DR. VASILE-OCTAVIAN MIHOC



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AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Systematic Theology and Missiology; Ecumenical Theology, Christian cultures of Near and Middle East (interreligious coexistence and Oriental-Occidental relations); Intercultural Theology; Theology of Migration; Interreligious Studies (in particular Christianity and Islam)

EMPLOYMENT

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| 2019-present | Programme Executive for Ecumenical Relations and Faith and Order , at World Council of Churches, Geneva Professor at the Ecumenical Institute at Bossey |
| 2016-19 | Scientific Assistant at the Institute for Catholic Theology and Its Didactics, Faculty of Catholic Theology, U of Münster |
| 2013-16 | Scientific Assistant at the Institute for Missiology and the Study of Theologies Beyond Europe, Faculty of Catholic Theology, U of Münster |
| 2009 | Research Assistant at the Institute for Ecumenical Theology, and Orient Church History and Mission History, Faculty of Protestant Theology, U of Göttingen |

EDUCATION

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| 2016-2019 | Postdoc , Faculty of Roman Catholic Theology, U of Münster |
| 2009-15 | Ph.D. in Oriental Church History , Faculty of Protestant Theology, U of Göttingen |
| 2005-07 | MA in Systematic Theology , Faculty of Orthodox Theology, U of Sibiu |
| 2001-05 | BA in Theology , Faculty of Orthodox Theology, U of Sibiu |

AWARDS AND GRANTS

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| 2016 | Third party grant: 36,000€ grant awarded for the Summer School “Arabic Christianity: History, Culture, Language, Theology, Liturgy” (July 18- August 12, 2016) by the VolkswagenStiftung. |
| 2010-13 | Scholarship within German Research Foundation (DFG) , grant program “Images of Gods – Images of God – Images of the World. Polytheism and Monotheism in Antiquity” |

PUBLICATIONS

books – as editor

- forthcoming | co-editor with Ryann Craig, *A Contested Coexistence: Historical, Theological and Linguistic Insights into Arabic Christianity*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- 2018 | co-editor with Claudia Rammelt und Esther Hornung, *Begegnung in der Globalität. Christliche Migrationskirchen in Deutschland im Wandel*. Leipzig: Evangelische Verlagsanstalt.

books – as author

- 2017 | *Christliche Bilderverehrung angesichts islamischer Bilderlosigkeit. Der Traktat über die Bilderverehrung von Theodor Abū Qurrah (ca. 755 - ca. 830)*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.

articles

- forthcoming | *Aesthetics as interfaith shared space between Christianity and Islam*
- forthcoming | *Christlicher Haddsch nach Jerusalem in der osmanischen Zeit*
- forthcoming | *Icoana la întâlnirea cu Islamul*
- forthcoming | *Iosif Trifa (1888–1938). Ein missionarischer Priester in Siebenbürgen.*
- 2018 | *Kontextuelle Neuformulierung christlicher Lehrinhalte im islamischen Raum. Exemplarisch-vergleichende Analysen zwischen Johannes von Damaskus und Theodor Abū Qurrah*, in: Martin Tamcke (ed.), *Profile gelebter Theologie im Orient. Sidney Harrison Griffith zum 80. Geburtstag*, Wiesbaden 2018, 89-108
- 2018 | *Begegnung. Eine orthodox-theologische Perspektive*, in: Claudia Rammelt / Esther Hornung / Vasile-Octavian Mihoc (eds.), *Begegnung in der Globalität. Christliche Migrationskirchen in Deutschland im Wandel*, Leipzig 2018, 49-56.
- 2015 | *The Role of Prophecy in Early Christian Arabic Apologetics. Theodore Abū Qurrah's Model of Rewritten Bible in the Encounter with Islam*, in: Pekka Lindqvist / Sven Grebenstein (eds.), *Take Another Scroll and Write. Studies in the Interpretative Afterlife of Prophets and Prophecy in Judaism, Christianity and Islam*, *Studies in the Reception History of the Bible* vol. 6, Åbo / Winona Lake 2015, 291–324.
- 2015 | *Hermeneutische und argumentative Modelle im Traktat über Christologie von Ḥabīb ibn Khidma Abū Rāʾiṭah l-Takrītī*, in: Claudia Rammelt / Cornelia Schlarb / Egbert Schlarb (eds.), *Begegnungen in Vergangenheit und Gegenwart. Beiträge dialogischer Existenz. Eine freundschaftliche Festgabe zum 60. Geburtstag von Martin Tamcke*, Berlin: Lit 2015, 380–397.
- 2014 | *Wahrnehmung des religiös Anderen und konzeptionelle Grundlagen der selbstreferentiellen Definierung in der Bilderabhandlung von Theodor Abū Qurrah*, in: Martin Tamcke / Sven Grebenstein (eds.): *Geschichte, Theologie und Kultur des syrischen Christentums. Beiträge zum 7. Deutschen Syrologie-Symposium in Göttingen, Dezember 2011*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz 2014, 177–190.

- 2013 Der Schriftgebrauch im christlich-islamischen Kontext. Ein Beispiel der Intertextualität bei Theodor Abū Qurrah, in: *The Journal of Eastern Christian Studies* 65 (2013) 1-2, 1–20.
- 2012 Die Rede von Körperlichkeit Gottes bei Theodor Abū Qurrah unter besonderer Berücksichtigung seiner Ikonenabhandlung, in: Martin Tamcke (ed.), *Orientalische Christen und Europa. Kulturbegegnung zwischen Interferenz, Partizipation und Antizipation*, Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz 2012, 345–356.

TALKS

invited

- 2019 Christlicher Haddsch nach Jerusalem in der osmanischen Zeit | PILGERN. Öffentliche Vorlesungsreihe im Sommersemester 2019 (Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany)
- 2018 The concept of “witness” - an Orthodox perspective | Pre-Assembly Youth Event of the Conference of European Churches (Novi Sad, Serbia)
- 2018 Mission, Migration and Cross-Cultural Coexistence as Themes of the Intercultural Theology – An European Perspective | Global Ecumenical Theological Institute 2018 (Arusha, Tanzania)
- 2017 Geschichte der interreligiösen Beziehungen im Nahen Osten | Katholische Akademie in Berlin e. V.
- 2017 Theodor Abū Qurrah (8./9.Jh.) - erster orthodoxer Vermittler christlichen Denkens im arabischen Kulturraum | Öffentliche Vorlesungsreihe im Sommersemester 2017: Gestalten der orientalischen Orthodoxie at the Protestant-Theological Faculty, U of Göttingen
- 2012, '15, '16 Invited seminar talks at U of Göttingen and U of Bochum. Topics: Orthodox Ecclesiology; Orthodox Sprituality; Orthodoxy and Ecumenism; and History of Arabic Christianity

other

- 2015 Christology and the Christian-Muslim Debate on Scriptural Anthropomorphism in Early Christian Arabic Literature | International Doctoral Colloquium and International Theological Colloquium “L’Hospitalité divine”. U of Münster (29-30 May).
- 2012 Models of Interpretation of the Bible in the Early Christian Arabic Literature | Workshop: “Rewritten Bible: Prophecy in Judaism, Christianity and Islam”. U of Turku, Finland (4-5 Sep).
- 2012 Der Schriftgebrauch im christlich-islamischen Kontext. Ein Beispiel der Intertextualität bei Theodor Abū Qurrah (c. 755–c. 830) | 9th Conference on Christian Arabic Studies. U of Malta, Malta. (19-21 July).
- 2011 Wahrnehmung des religiös Anderen und konzeptionelle Grundlagen der selbstreferentiellen Definierung in der Bilderabhandlung von Theodor Abū Qurrah | 7. Deutscher Syrologentag. U of Göttingen, Germany (16-17 Dec).
- 2011 The Use of Scripture in Early Christian Arabic Apologetics | Workshop “Rewritten Bible: Prophecy in Judaism, Christianity and Islam”. U of Turku, Finland (8-10 Dec).
- 2010 Thron Gottes und Ikone in der Bilderabhandlung des Theodor Abu Qurrah | International Conference “Orientalische Christen und Europa. Kulturbegegnung zwischen Interferenz, Partizipation und Antizipation”. U of Göttingen, Germany (25-26 June).

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| TEACHING |
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| 2018 | Academic Facilitator. Global Ecumenical Theological Institute (Arusha, Tanzania). |
| 2017 | Academic Facilitator. Global Ecumenical Theological Institute (Berlin, Germany). |

Erasmus Teaching Mobility

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| 6-12 Apr 2015 | Lectures at the Faculty of Islamic Theology (Ilahiyat Fakültesi), Marmara U, Istanbul. Topics: Introduction to Orthodox Theology; History of Christian kalām; Kalām as shared theological space between Christian and Muslim theologians. |
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at U of Münster ([+] = introductory seminar, [++] = advanced seminar)

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| WS 2018/19 | [++] Theologie und Ästhetik der koranischen und islamischen Jesusbilder |
| SS 2018 | [++] Christliche Theologien in der Welt des Islam [+] Grundzüge orthodoxer Spiritualität |
| WS 2017/18 | [++] Grundzüge theologischer Ästhetik aus orthodoxer Perspektive [++] Wie können wir gemeinsam von Gott sprechen? Ein interkonfessioneller und interreligiöser Austausch [+] Gottesebenbildlichkeit des Menschen: eine ideengeschichtliche und ökumenische Analyse |
| SS 2017 | [++] Byzanz und Islam: die Ära eines Übergangs (7. bis 9. Jahrhundert) [++] Liturgie, Architektur und Bild in den orthodoxen Traditionen |
| WS 2016/17 | [++] Der koranische Messias und die christlich-muslimischen Auseinandersetzungen um die Person Christi in den Anfängen des Islam und heute [++] "Gott ist schön" – christliche und muslimische Annäherungen zum "Sehen Gottes" |
| SS 2016 | [++] Mission und Orthodoxie [++] Translating God(s): Methods and Projects in Comparative Theology |
| WS 2015/16 | [+] Einführung in die Missionswissenschaft und außereuropäischen Theologien [++] Bekehrung oder mehrfache religiöse Zugehörigkeit? |
| SS 2015 | [++] Interreligiöses Zeugnis in muslimisch-christlichen Auseinandersetzungen |
| WS 2014/15 | [++] Mission oder Interreligiöser Dialog? |
| SS 2014 | [++] Christliche Theologien in der Welt des Islam |
| WS 2013/14 | [+] Einführung in die Missionswissenschaft und außereuropäischen Theologien |

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| SERVICE |
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| 2018 | Reviewer for the Journal "Transformation" (Oxford Centre for Mission Studies) |
| 2018 | Member of the hiring committee for the chair "Religious Studies" at the Faculty of Catholic Theology, U of Münster |
| 2014, '15, '16 | Coordinator of two intensive language courses: Theological Arabic I and Theological Arabic II. |

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| 2015 | Co-organizer and guide: Study trip organized by the Faculty of Catholic Theology, U of Münster. Theme: "Shared and Contested Sacral Spaces: Islam and Christianity in Istanbul" (6-12 Apr). |
| 2014 | Chair for panel "Christianity in West Asia" at summer school: "Christianity in Asia". U of Münster (14-27 Sep). |
| 2014 | Organizer and moderator of an open forum on "Christology and Theology of the Logos" with participation of Christian and Muslims scholars. U of Münster. |
| 2013 | Organizer and guide: Study trip organized by the Faculty of Protestant Theology, Georg August U of Göttingen. Theme: "Orthodoxy and Orthodox Spirituality in Romania" (21-28 July). |
| 2012 | Co-organizer: International Conference: "Rewritten Bible: Prophecy in Judaism, Christianity and Islam". U of Göttingen, Germany (8-10 Oct). |
| 2011-12 | Member of the International and Interdisciplinary Network for the Study of the Reception History of the Bible at the U of Turku, Finland. |

languages *native:* Romanian; *excellent:* German; *very good:* English; *comprehensive and reading:* French; *course-work:* Ancient Hebrew, Ancient Greek, Latin, Classical Arabic

personal skills excellent interpersonal and ecumenical skills; tactful and articulate; good with team work; persevering, attentive to detail; confident; flexible and adaptable; able to plan research and organize tasks effectively; flexible with working hours