

Interdisciplinary Program in Law and Religion
The Middle East Dialogue Program
PAST LECTURERS

Jacob Lassner, Professor of History and Religion, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, "Skepticism in Law in Early Judaism and Islam," Wednesday, April 11, 2007; **Joseph Cirinione**, Senior Vice President for National Security and International Policy, Center for American Progress, Washington, D.C., "Bomb Scare: How to Stop Iran's Nuclear Program without War," March 21, 2007; **Daniel Taub**, Deputy Legal Advisor, Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "The Rule of Law in an Age of Terror," March 14, 2007; **Rabbi Alon Goshen-Gottstein**, Director, Elijah School for the Study of Wisdom in World Religions, Jerusalem and Director, Center for the Study of Rabbinic Thought, Beit Morasha College, Jerusalem, "Seeking New Paradigms in Interfaith Dialogue: A View From Jerusalem," November 21, 2006; **William Beeman, Ph.D.**, Professor of Anthropology and Director of Middle East Studies, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, "Shi'a Islam and the Political Language of Iran," November 13, 2006; **Judith Yaphe, Ph.D.**, Professor, Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University, "Iranian Ambitions and American Options: Is There Another Islamic Bomb in Our Future?" October 30, 2006; **Bernard Sabella, Ph.D.**, Professor of Sociology, Bethlehem University, "The Situation of Palestinian Christians," October 25, 2006; **Asher Maoz**, Professor of Law, Tel Aviv University, Israel, **Gloria M. Morán-García, Ph.D.**, Professor of Law, University of A Coruña, Spain, and **Rahim Nobahar, Ph.D.**, Faculty of Law, Shahid Beheshti University, Iran, "Religion and the State: A Comparative Look at Israel, Spain and Iran, September 6, 2006; **Archbishop Pietro Sambì**, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States of America, April 24, 2006; **Jillian Schwedler, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Government and Politics, University of Maryland at College Park, "Islamism and the Challenge of Political Inclusion," April 4, 2006; **Fayçal Souissi**, Professor of International Relations, University of Tunis and **Azhar Hussein**, Senior Fellow in Education and Development, International Center for Religion & Diplomacy, "Education for Tolerance: Religious Education in Tunisia, March 29, 2006; **Nathan Brown, Ph.D.**, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, "The Religious Aspects of Arab Constitutions," February 22, 2006; **Rabbi Arnold E. Resnicoff**, Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force on Values and Vision, "Religion in the Military," Nov. 11, 2005; **Hon. Biserá Turkovic**, Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the United States, "Bosnia and Herzegovina: The Religious and Political Landscape Today," Nov. 10, 2005; **Dr. Nickolas K. Gvosdev**, Editor, The National Interest, and Senior Fellow for Strategic Studies, The Nixon Center, "The Rise and Fall of Radical Political Islam," Oct. 27, 2005; **His Majesty King Abdullah II**, King of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, "Traditional Islam: The Path to Peace," Sept. 13, 2005; **Menachem Kellner**, 2005 Scholar-in-Residence, The Foundation for Jewish Studies, "The Philosophical Underpinnings of Maimonides Legal Writings," Sept. 7, 2005; **Hon. Imad Moustapha**, Ambassador of Syria to the United States, "Syria: A Historic, Cultural and Political Perspective," May 11, 2005; **Mary Shivanandan**, S.T.D., Professor of Theology, John Paul II Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family, "Modesty in the Abrahamic Religions," April 29, 2005; **Theodore Cardinal McCarrick**, Archbishop of Washington, D.C. and Chancellor of The Catholic University of America, "The Abrahamic Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran," April 28, 2005; **Dr. Hadi Semati**, Associate Professor of Political Science on the Faculty of Law and Political Science, University of Tehran, Iran and Public Policy Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center and **Trita Parsi**, Middle East specialist, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, "Nuclear Iran?" March 23, 2005; **William Cardinal Keeler**, Archbishop of Baltimore, **Rabbi Jack Bemporad**, Rev. **Norbert Hofman**, and **Dr. Ellis Rivkin**, "Finding the Place for the Other: The Future of Jewish-Christian Dialogue," March 10, 2005; **Karim Khutar Almusawi**, Washington Representative of The Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI), "A Religious View of the Iraqi Elections," Feb. 22, 2005; **Archbishop Ramzi D. Yousif Garmou**, Grand Archbishop of Assyrians & Chaldeans in Tehran, "Christianity in Iran: Past and Present, A Christian Voice from the Islamic Republic of Iran," Feb. 4, 2005; **Dr. Abdulkarim Soroush**, "Islam and the Concept of 'Secularity,'" May 10, 2004; **Dr. S.H. Nasr**, Professor of Islamic Studies, George Washington University, "Misperceptions About Islam: Past and Present," Sept.



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
Columbus School of Law

Interdisciplinary Program in Law and Religion
The Middle East Religious Dialogue Program
in conjunction with the Embassy of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Islam in the West: Ideals and Realities

Wednesday, May 23
9:30 a.m.

Walter J. Slowinski Court Room
Columbus School of Law

Dr. Mustafa Ef. Cerić is the Grand Mufti of Bosnia Herzegovina and currently is serving his second 7-year term. He is considered to be one of the most liberal Grand Muftis in the world.

He is the co-recipient of the 2003 UNESCO Felix Houphouet-Boigny Peace Prize for Contribution to World Peace and recipient of the International Council of Christians and Jews Annual Sir Sternberg Award for exceptional contribution to interfaith understanding. One of the latest international recognitions he received is the 2007 Theodor-Heuss-Stiftung award for his contributions to spreading and strengthening democracy.

Cerić graduated from the Madressa in Sarajevo and received a scholarship to Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt. After his schooling there, he returned to his native Bosnia Herzegovina, where he became an Imam. In 1981, he accepted the position of Imam at the Islamic Cultural Center of Greater Chicago in Northbrook, Illinois and settled in the United States for several years. He learned English and earned a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in Islamic Theology. When he finished his studies, he returned to his homeland, leaving the ICC and becoming a practicing Imam in a learning center in Zagreb in 1987.

Dr. Cerić is a member of several local and international scientific organizations and societies, including the Interreligious Council of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Foundation of Srebrenica-Potočari Memorial and Cemetery, the Council of 100 Leaders of the World Economic Forum, the European Council for Fatwas and Research, World Conference of Religion & Peace, the Executive Committee of the European Council of Religious Leaders, the Board of Trustees of International Islamic University Islamabad, the Sharia'h Board of Bosnia Bank International, the Fiqh Academy in Mecca, Aal Albayt Foundation for Islamic Thought in Jordan, the World Council of Religions for Peace, International Commission for Peace Research chaired by Dr. Henry Kissinger, UNESCO and Executive Council of World Forum of Ulama. He has delivered numerous lectures and led several workshops on interreligious and interfaith issues at local and international conferences. His publications include: **Roots of Synthetic Theology in Islam; A Choice Between War and Peace;** and **European Muslim Declaration.**

Welcome and Introduction

Robert A. Destro

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Program in Law and Religion*

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Grand Mufti of Bosnia and Herzegovina