



**2018 Council of Europe Conference
on Interfaith Dialogue and LGBTI**

**Homosexuality and Contemporary Christianity
Interdisciplinary and Multiconfessional Approaches**

Programme

Strasbourg, 5th July 2018

European Youth Center (CoE)

Thursday, 5th July 2018

9.00 – 9.15

Opening remarks

Ms. Eleni Tsetsekou, SOGI, Council of Europe
Rev. Prof. Christos Filiotis, PhD, University of Thessaloniki
Mr. Lucian Cirlan, PhD Candidate, EPHE PSL (Paris-Sorbonne) and GSRL

9.15 – 10.30

**CONFERENCE – HOMOSEXUALITY AND GENDER IDENTITY: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY
OVERVIEW**

Rev. Vasileios Thermos, MD. PhD, Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens

Chair: Prof. Rémi Gounelle, Dean of the Faculty of Protestant Theology,
University of Strasbourg

10.30 – 10.45

Coffee break

10.45 - 11:00

Being Christian and Gay: testimony by Mr. Misha Cherniak

European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups

11.00 – 12.30

**SESSION I – ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN THEOLOGICAL APPROACHES TOWARDS
HOMOSEXUALITY**

Chair: Mr. Sören Lenz, Executive Secretary of the Conference of European
Churches (CEC-KEK)

Prof. Aikaterini Tsalampouni, PhD, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Aristotle
University of Thessalonik, *Same-Sex Relations and the Bible: The
Hermeneutical Challenge*

Rev. Prof. Archim. Grigorios D. Papathomas, PhD, Faculty of Theology
University of Athens: *Homosexuality, One Nature Against Nature? A Centrifugal
Existential State Between Intra-Hypostatic Narcissism [Rm 1:23] and Intra-
Creationated Orientation [Rm 1:25]*

Rev. Prof. Gheorghe Popa, PhD, Faculty of Orthodoxy Theology, University
Alexandru Ioan Cuza of Iasi – *Being, Existence and Spiritual Orientation.
Relevant Considerations for Understanding the Orthodox Christianity
Perspective on Homosexuality*

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch, Restaurant Bleu, Palais de l'Europe

13.30 - 15.00

SOUS-THEME II - REGARDS OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIETIES ON HOMOSEXUALITY. CASE STUDIES (GREECE, ROMANIA, FRANCE)

Chair: Rev. Prof. Christos Filiotis, PhD, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Thessaloniki

Ms. Aikaterini Karkala-Zorba, M.FLE, MTheol, PhD Candidate (LMU, Institute for Orthodox Theology), Orthodox Academy of Crete: *The Greek Contemporary Society and the Question of the Sexual Identity*

Mr. Lucian Cirlan, PhD Candidate, Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes PSL (Paris-Sorbonne) and Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités (CNRS-GSRL): *Revising the Constitution: Referendum for Family and "Traditional" Marriage in Romania*

Mr. Josselin Tricou, PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, University Paris 8 Vincennes - St-Denis, *Emergence of the "Anti-Gender" and Anti-"Gay Marriage" Cause in French Society*

15.00 – 15.15

Coffee break

15.15 – 17.00

SESSION III – CHRISTIAN CHURCHES AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Chair: Prof. Sébastien Milazzo, Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Strasbourg

Prof. Anne Bamberg, PhD, Faculty of Catholic Theology, University of Strasbourg: *Marriage and Homosexuality from the Catholic Church Perspective*

Rev. Prof. Athanasios Gikas, PhD, and **Rev. Prof. Christos Filiotis**, PhD, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Thessaloniki: *Same-sex Marriage from the Orthodox Christianity Perspective*

Prof. Isabel Grellier, PhD, Faculty of Protestant Theology, University of Strasbourg: *The Debate for Same-Sex Marriage Blessing within French Protestantism*

Prof. Rémy Bethmont, PhD, Department of Anglophone Studies, University Paris 8 Vincennes - St-Denis and Groupe Sociétés, Religions, Laïcités (CNRS-GSRL): *Blessing Same-Sex Unions in the Church of England: The Liturgical Challenge of Same-Sex Couples' Demand for Inclusive Marriage Rites*

17.00 – 17.15

Coffee break

17.15 – 18.30

ROUND TABLE - CHURCHES' ROLE IN PROMOTING TOLERANCE AND NON-DISCRIMINATION TOWARDS LGBTI

Chair: **Ms. Eleni Tsetsekou**, SOGI, Council of Europe

Rev. Prof. Vasileios Thermos, MD. PhD, Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens

Rev. Philippe Herbillon, Strasbourg University Hospitals Chaplain

Rev. Wielie Elhorst, European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups

18.30

Conclusions

Ms. Eleni Tsetsekou, SOGI, Council of Europe