

“Critical Geographies of Religion(s) between Domination, Power and Resistance”

Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde (IfL) · Schongauerstraße 9 · Room 108, 1st floor

THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2026

12:30	Arrival and registration
13:00–13:30	Welcome and introduction
13:30–14:30	KEYNOTE Kamila Klingorová (Czech Academy of Sciences & Charles University, Prague) Where the Sacred Meets the Everyday: Community, Care, and Sacred–Secular Boundaries in Contemporary Prague
14:30–15:00	Coffee break
15:00–16:30	SESSION S1 Barbora Spalová (Prague): “Christian spouses must live together”: Churches as mediating structures, women’s agency and evangelical gender norms under wartime separation Hans Hopfinger (Eichstätt-Ingolstadt) [DE]: Destination Mekka und Medina: Ein eigener arabisch-islamischer „9/11“ und die Entwicklung des Pilgerns in Saudi-Arabien Tomáš Havlíček (Prague): The transformation of traditional churches and the emergence of ‘new’ churches through Ukrainian migrants in Czechia
16:30–17:00	Coffee break
17:00–18:00	SESSION S2 Isabella Schwaderer (Erfurt): Performing Religious Space: Towards a Performative Geography of Religion Ahmet Kerim Gültekin (Leipzig): When Sacred Geography Moves: Violence, Epistemic Resistance, and Raa Haqi from Dersim to the European Diaspora
19:30	Conference dinner in Leipzig’s city (location tbd)

FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2026

08:30	Arrival
09:00–10:30	SESSION S3 Diana Lunkwitz (Erlangen): „Ostdeutschland als Vorbild für ganz Deutschland verstehen!“ Spatial Theories and Concepts of ‘Religion’ and ‘Culture’ in the Radical Right-Wing Alternative for Germany (AfD) Party in Conversation with Spatializations in the Global History of Religion and the Role of (Critical) Geography of Religion Simon Runkel (Jena): Jupiterian Geopolitics: Macron, Political Rhetoric and Conspiratorial Ideologies of Europe’s Christian Far-Right Frank Meyer (Leipzig): Rededicating the Nation: Covenantal territorial claim-making on the U.S. National Mall
10:30–11:00	Coffee break
11:00–12:00	SESSION S4 Silvia Omenetto & Martino Haver Longo (Rome / Turin–Florence): Testing a Tripartite Framework on the Material Geographies of Minority Places of Worship Kerstin Menzel (Leipzig): Patterns and Politics of the Transformation of Sacred Spaces
12:00–13:30	Lunch break
13:30–15:00	Working Group meeting
15:00	End of conference

CONFERENCE LANGUAGES

Conference languages are German and English; presentations are predominantly held in English.

PAPER FORMAT

Regular papers are allocated 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for discussion.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation suggestions: Galerie Hotel Leipziger Hof in Leipzig's East; Motel One Leipzig in the Inner City (several locations); H4 Hotel Leipzig in Leipzig's East.

CONTACT

Contact: f_meyer@leibniz-ifl.de

CONFERENCE FEE AND CATERING

No conference fee is charged. Snacks and basic beverages will be available. Lunch will be available at the nearby shopping mall at participants' own expense.

AVAILABLE SPOTS AND REGISTRATION

Due to limited capacity, please register for the conference until November 17th 2026, via f_meyer@leibniz-ifl.de.

CONFERENCE VENUE

We will convene at the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (or German: Leibniz-Institut für Länderkunde) in the East of Leipzig. If you reside in Leipzig's city centre, please use the following connections from Leipzig Main Station (German: Hauptbahnhof). Please consult the following [Google Maps link](#) for navigation.

TRAM

approx. 45 minutes

From the main station, take tram 3E or 7 to the final stop Sommerfeld. Walk through the Paunsdorf Center towards the Sachsen-Therme. The IfL is located diagonally across from the car repair shop.

TRAM AND BUS

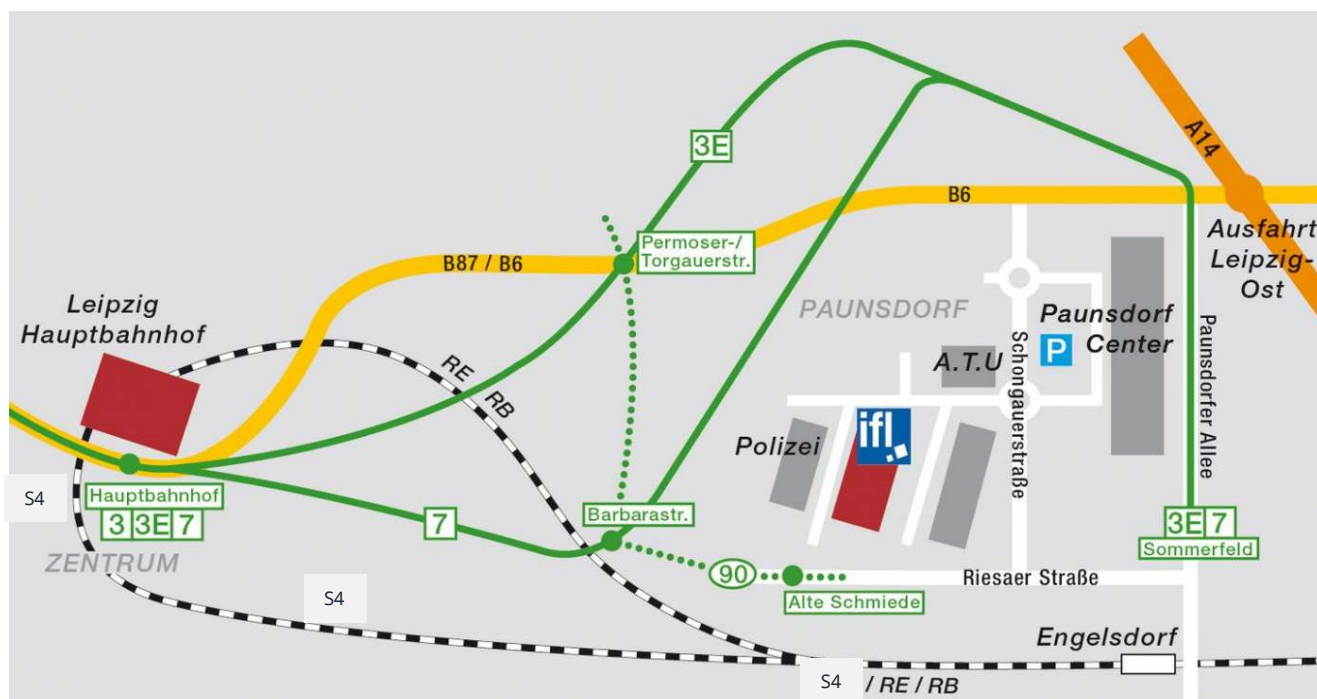
approx. 30 minutes

From the main station, take tram 7 (direction Sommerfeld) to the stop Barbarastraße or tram 3E (direction Sommerfeld) to the stop Permoser-/Torgauerstraße. Continue with bus 90 (direction Paunsdorf Center) to the stop Alte Schmiede. Cross Riesaer Straße. The IfL is located in the middle of the three building complexes behind an open gate.

SUBURBAN / REGIONAL TRAIN

approx. 35 / 20 minutes

From the main station, take S4 (direction Wurzen/Oschatz) or RB 110 (direction Döbeln) / RE 50 (direction Dresden) to the stop Engelsdorf. Go up the stairs and turn left, then turn left again at the intersection and follow Riesaer Straße. Turn right into Schongauer Straße and at the roundabout turn left. The IfL is located in the middle of the three building complexes behind an open gate.



JOURNEY PLANNING To plan your journey, please use the timetable information service of the Mitteldeutscher Verkehrsverbund (www.mdv.de) or the “LeipzigMOVE” app.