FAU

Conference „Key Concepts in Interreligious Discourses"
The Concept of Suffering and the Concept of Happiness in Judaism, Christianity and Islam
February 25 – 27, 2026

Wednesday, February 25th 2026:
14:00:-14:15
Welcome and introduction by Prof. Dr. Georges Tamer,
Chair of Oriental Philology ans Islamic Studies,
Director of the Bavarian Research Center for Interreligious Discourses (BaFID), FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

The Concept of Suffering in Judaism, Christianity and Islam

Session I
14:15-15:15
Lecture: The Concept of Suffering in Judaism by Prof. Dr. James A. Diamond, University of Waterloo (Canada)
Chair: Dr. Nathanael Riemer, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Session II
15:30-16:30
Lecture: The Concept of Suffering in Christianity by Prof. Dr. Michael Bongardt, Universität Siegen (Germany)
Chair: PD Dr. Christian Lange, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Session III
17:00-18:00
Lecture: The Concept of Suffering in Islam by Prof. Dr. Mohammed Ghaly, Hamad Bin Khalifa University (Qatar)
Chair: Dr. Pascal Held, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Thursday, Feburary 26th 2026:
09:00-12:30
Concluding discussion of the three presentations and preparation of the volume

The Concept of Happiness in Judaism, Christianity and Islam

Session I
14:00-15:00
Lecture: The Concept of Happiness in Judaism by Prof. Dr. em. Kenneth R. Seeskin, Northwestern University (USA)
Chair: Prof. Dr. Georges Tamer, FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Session II
15:15-16:15
Lecture: The Concept of Happiness in Christianity by Prof. Dr. em. Ellen Charry, Princeton Theological Seminary (USA)
Chair: Jan Gehm, M.A., FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Session III
16:45-17:45
Lecture: The Concept of Happiness in Islam by Visiting Prof. Dr. Raid Al-Daghistani, University of Paderborn (Germany)
Chair: Ramy Abdin, M.A., FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg

Friday, Feburary 27th 2026:
09:00-12:30
Concluding discussion of the three presentations and preparation of the volume

If you wish to attend any of the lectures in person please register **by email (bafid@fau.de) until Feburary 18th 2026**.

BaFID
Bayerisches Forschungszentrum für Interreligiöse Diskurse