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Segreteria Organizzativa



Centro di Cultura Scientifica  
 "Alessandro Volta"

Con il supporto di



Camera di Commercio  
 Como



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI  
 DELL'INSUBRIA

**Centro di ricerca**  
**"Religioni, Diritti ed Economie nello**  
**Spazio Mediterraneo" - REDESM**

*Research Centre*  
*"Religion, Law and Economy*  
*in the Mediterranean Area"*



## The REDESM – Mission and Objectives

In the marvelous location of Como, which provides for ideal and stimulating space for intellectual interchange, the Research Centre “**Religion, Law and Economy in the Mediterranean Area**” (“**Religioni, Diritti ed Economie nello Spazio Mediterraneo**” - REDESM), established within the University of Insubria, aims to foster and develop research, knowledge exchange and education projects related to **religious pluralism** in the Mediterranean area, with the objective of achieving a better mutual knowledge among different religions, cultures and societies living in this key geopolitical region.

With the interdisciplinary approach that stems from the unique expertise of the Department of Law, Economy and Cultures of the University of Insubria (Como), whose activities include courses in Law, Economy and subjects pertaining to social, cultural and linguistic pluralism, the Centre takes a special interest in the challenges of religious diversity in contemporary societies, both from a legal and a socio-economic perspective.

Fostering a deeper insight into the different issues related to religious pluralism, the Centre seeks to strengthen dialogue and cooperation, in pursuit of common cultural grounds and of peaceful coexistence in the Mediterranean. The Centre will also serve as a research-forum for the discussion of current issues and as a gathering point for people interested in these topics.

Research projects, publications, and education projects will be among the main activities of the Centre, in order to promote knowledge of implications and impacts of religious pluralism in the Mediterranean countries and to disseminate information and research results. Intellectual, cultural and research exchange will be promoted through web-pages, seminars, conferences, public debates, courses, Summer school and other scientific and education activities.

All the objectives of the Centre are pursued within a perspective of mutual understanding, respect and appreciation of diversity, seeking a shared interpretation of fundamental rights granted at the International level.

## Specific Activities of the Centre

In cooperation with other public and private institutions and bringing together Italian and foreign scholars, REDESM undertakes the following activities:

- organization of and participation in seminars, national and international conferences, teacher exchanges and training activities;
- publication of articles, texts, manuals and reference lists and promotion of other editorial initiatives (e.g. book series and new journals, printed and online);
- training of scholars and teachers about religious pluralism issues;
- encouraging cooperation and research links with scholars and institutions in Italy or elsewhere;
- organization of higher education initiatives (e.g. graduate school, masters, Summer/Winter Schools, other courses) and of basic education projects, spreading innovation and culture;
- promotion of joint initiatives with other public and private partners, creating partnerships and exchange opportunities for researchers and teachers;
- promotion of research awards, scholarships and research grants;
- establishment of spin-off and/or start-up and/or other associations and/or companies.

REDESM seeks also to create opportunities for business activities between different countries in the Mediterranean, offering a focal point for cultural and linguistic mediation and for a deeper knowledge of business and economic models in the Mediterranean area.

## Organization and Membership

REDESM is affiliated with the Department of Law, Economy and Cultures of the University of Insubria and with FIDR (Forum Internazionale Democrazia & Religioni, [www.fidr.it](http://www.fidr.it)). The Centre is governed by a Scientific Director and a Scientific Council.

Membership of REDESM comprises teachers, researchers and members of the staff at the University of Insubria and at other Italian and foreign Universities, scholars at public and private research centres, non-university students, and other experts and public and private research organizations, according to article 6 of the Statute. REDESM welcomes membership of researchers from around the world and collaboration among Italian and foreign research Centres.



**FIDR - International Forum for Religions and Democracy**  
Centro Interdipartimentale dell'Università del Piemonte Orientale  
"Amedeo Avogadro"

## FIDR International Forum for Religions and Democracy

The FIDR is a interuniversity research centre, established at the University of Piemonte Orientale (Alessandria) and gathering Universities of Milan, Padua, Insubria (Como and Varese) and Catholic University of Milan.

One of its institutional main purposes is, other than education and research, knowledge transfer on the ethnical-religious conflicts currently present in contemporary democracies and national law systems, especially in the Euro-Mediterranean Area.

The centre is working on improving its research methodologies, through initiatives and scientific activities. One of its main aims is also creating a network with other research centers and with the Italian Public administration, in order to provide effective solutions in the field of governance in multi-cultural societies.

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