

Bonner Querschnitte

Bonn Profiles – Press Reports

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Political Islam as Hybrid Actor in Europe

Christine Schirmacher speaks at the International Security Forum Bonn

(Bonn, 08.0.2025) Prof. Dr. Christine Schirmacher, an expert in Islamic Studies, spoke at the International Security Forum Bonn of the Henry Kissinger Professorship for Strategic and Integration Studies at the Center for Advanced Security, Strategic and Integration Studies (CASSIS), which was held in cooperation with the Academy of International Affairs NRW at the University Forum Bonn. The topic of the full-day event was “Political Islam as Hybrid Actor in Europe – activities, means and strategies”.

Schirmacher emphasized that the topic of Islamism is by no means limited to the violent spectrum of Islamic extremism, which is usually at the forefront of public perception. Rather, it is also important to shed light on the area that security authorities refer to as “legalistic Islamism”. She says it refers to the political ideology of those who, with reference to the “original” Islam of Muhammad, want to restore this original Islamic society, reject Western societies and their civil rights, and consider Sharia law to be indispensable for building a just society. This political Islam uses the means of democracy to ultimately abolish democracy.

For many years, the International Security Forum Bonn has served as a platform for renowned international experts and specialists in security and foreign policy to come together to discuss the future of transatlantic relations and the most pressing challenges in international politics. The aim is to identify ways and means for a successful German, European and transatlantic foreign and security policy and to develop and discuss comprehensive strategic solutions for pressing security challenges.

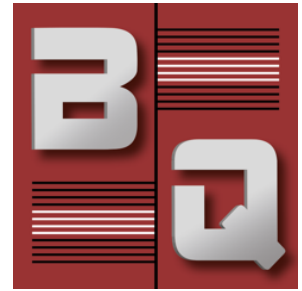
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During the event © Evelyn Bokler-Völkel



A joint platform for the following Bonn organizations on the basis of the Evangelical Alliance:

Bonn Abrahamic Center for Global Justice, Peace and Sustainability

Business Coalition of the World Evangelical Alliance (Bonn, Hamburg) business.worlddea.org

Evangelical Missiology, Journal of missiotop – Evangelical Forum for Missions, Cultures and Religions (German Evangelical Alliance) missiotop.org

Evangelical Review of Theology (New York, Bonn) theology.worlddea.org/evangelical-review-of-theology

Giving Hands – International Charity (Bonn) gebende-haende.de

Institut für Islamfragen der Deutschen, Schweizer und Österreichischen Allianz (IfI) islaminstitut.de

International Institute for Islamic Studies (IIS) (Bonn) islaminstiute.net

International Institute for Religious Freedom (IIRF) (Bonn, Vancouver, San José – Costa Rica) iirf.global

International Journal for Religious Freedom (IJRF) (Bonn/Toronto) ijrf.org

International Secretariat of the International Society for Human Rights (ISHR) ishr.org

Islam and Christianity journal.islaminstiute.net

Martin Bucer Seminary (Bonn, Zürich, Tirana, São Paulo, Helsinki, Istanbul, Delhi) bucer.org

SOS World (Brussels) sosworld.be/page-daccueil

Theological Commission of the European Evangelical Alliance europeanea.org

Verlag für Kultur und Wissenschaft (VKW) (Culture and Science Publ.) vkwonline.com

WEA book series: Global Issues Series / World of Theology Series theology.worlddea.org/global-issues
theology.worlddea.org/world-of-theology

WEA Sustainability Center wea-sc.org

Yearbook on Religious Freedom of the Commission for Religious Freedom of the German and the Austrian Evangelical Alliance iirf.global/jahrbuch

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Downloads and Links:

- **Photo 1** and **photo 2**: During the event © Evelyn Bokler-Völkel
- The program of the event: https://www.aia-nrw.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/23-10-06_Programme.pdf
- Information about the event: <https://www.cassis.uni-bonn.de/de/veranstaltungen/international-security-forum/isfb2023>

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