

**Published by:** *International Program Committee*

Institute of Social Sciences  
 Institute of National Significance  
 For the Republic of Serbia  
 Belgrade, 2023

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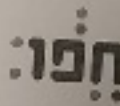
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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
 Belgrade

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND RELIGIOSITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE

(Annual International Scientific Conference)

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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## SOCIAL SUPPORT OF CHURCHES AND RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

The work of churches and religious communities in Serbia is regulated by law, as is the work of citizens' associations, foundations, and endowments. All churches and religious communities, in addition to performing religious ceremonies and missionary activities, engage in charitable and humanitarian work. Humanitarian and charitable work is often carried out through the work of registered citizens' associations, foundations and endowments. It is noticeable that some of these activities are also carried out through unregistered entities, i.e., entities that are not registered in the state registers of legal entities. Registered associations, foundations, and endowments established by churches and religious communities, directly or indirectly, always include work with marginalized and vulnerable social groups in their statutory objectives.

Starting from the fact that churches and religious communities have the need to establish new ones in addition to already registered legal entities, it opens up space for research and discussion about the real purpose of these organizations. The Serbian Business Registers Agency includes the data about which associations, endowments, and foundations were established by the church or religious communities.

The key issue is the transparency of this system, i.e., whether the state as well as the users have knowledge and complete information about the organizations that provide humanitarian aid. Therefore, the work will deal with the issues of transparency in the work of associations, foundations, and endowments established by churches and religious communities; it will try to explain the need to establish legal entities for the performance of humanitarian activities, as well as the demarcation between humanitarian and missionary activities, especially with marginalized and socially sensitive groups.

**Key words:** social support, missionary work, foundations, associations, humanity

THE 8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

# Religious Education and Religiosity of Young People

SREBRNO JEZERO, 8-9 SEPTEMBER 2023



**ORGANIZED BY**

**The Institute of Social Sciences, Belgrade**  
Forum for Religious Issues and Center for Sociological and Anthropological Research  
**The Center for Empirical Research of Religions, Novi Sad**