

**ROBERT F. HARNEY PROGRAM IN ETHNIC, IMMIGRATION AND PLURALISM STUDIES
MUNK SCHOOL OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS
2014 - 2015 HARNEY LECTURE SERIES IN ETHNICITY**



Monique Scheer

Hopes, Fears, and the Impact of the New Centers of Islamic Theology at German Universities

December 1, 2014 2:00~4:00pm
Room 208N, Munk School of Global Affairs
1 Devonshire Place University of Toronto

ABSTRACT: Muslims represent approximately five percent of the German population, making them the third largest religious group. Since Germany's public schools include religious instruction for Catholic and Protestant Christians, the decision was made to extend this privilege to Muslim children as well, which in turn required the establishment of teacher training centers. Four Centers for Islamic Theology at German universities were opened in 2011/2012. The lecture will discuss this new development in the context of Germany's specific brand of secularism, the hopes and fears it evokes, and what it says about the country's shifting self-understanding in the European context.

Monique Scheer is a Professor of Empirische Kulturwissenschaft (Historical and Cultural Anthropology) at the University of Tübingen. Her interests include cultural histories of popular forms of Christianity in modern Germany as well as questions of religious diversity and secularism.

**THIS EVENT IS AN INITIATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION
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