



UNIVERSITÀ  
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DI PADOVA

Venice-Padua-Delhi Seminars 2014  
November 6-8, Giorgio Cini Foundation, Venice – Padua University

## Minorities and Populisms

### Democracy and plural societies challenged by ethno-religious radicalisms

Reset-Dialogues on Civilizations, the international association for dialogue, is pleased to announce the fourth edition of the “Venice-Padua-Delhi Seminars”, three days of meetings and debates hosted by **Padua University** (November 6<sup>th</sup>) and by the **Giorgio Cini Foundation** in Venice (November 7-8<sup>th</sup>). The seminars—held on alternate years in Italy and India—are organised by Reset-Dialogues with the objective of promoting cultural dialogue and reciprocal awareness between the East and West and the valorisation of cultural, religious and political cultures in a global context.

#### This year’s conference

Intellectuals and scholars from India, Europe and other parts of the world will debate the issue of increasingly “pluralist” and fast-evolving democracies under pressure by populist movements, now often expressed by ethnic-religious radicalism, anti-politics, ‘majorities’ expressing resentment against minorities, rejection of dialogue and by widespread conflict.

#### An Indian weekend in Venice

**Photographic exhibition** - During the 3-days of seminars held at the Cini Foundation, there will also be an exhibition of photographs open to the public, entitled “**Lights of India**” 1935-1955 presenting over 40 black and white images from the Alain Daniélou and Raymond Burnier archives kept at the FIND Foundation in Zagarolo. Free entry.

**Indian dance performance** - In cooperation with Reset-DoC, Gamaka Association and Tocna Danza (Venice), the India-Europe Foundation for New Dialogues (FIND) is pleased to present a performance of classical Indian *Bharatanatyam* dance by the award-winning dancer **Leela Samson**, with Nidheesh Kumar, Indu Nidheesh and a renowned group of musicians, at the prestigious **Malibran Theatre** in Venice on **November 8<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 8 p.m.**

**Workshop** - From **Friday November 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday November 9<sup>th</sup>**, Leela Samson, as guest of the Gamaka Association directed by Marianna Biadene, will hold an intensive workshop on *Bharatanatyam* dancing for both dancers and professionals, organized in cooperation with the FIND Foundation, (for information on the programme see contacts below).



*The “Venice-Padua-Delhi Seminars” are an event organised in cooperation with the two host institutions, FIND India-Europe Foundation for New Dialogue, this year in charge of the artistic direction, the Islamic University Jamia Millia Islamia (Delhi), the Indian English-language magazine Seminar, the Gamaka Association and Tocna Danza. This event is held under the aegis of Padua University and with the support of the Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Pedagogy and Applied Psychology (FISPPA) and the Department of Political and Juridical Science and International Sciences (SPGI).*

## Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 10 am-5 pm

Padua University, Sala delle Edicole – Arco Valaresso, Piazza Capitaniato, Padua

Welcome: **Giovanni Luigi Fontana, Vincenzo Milanese, Antonio Varsori** (Padua University)

### *Introduction*

**Giuseppe Zaccaria** | Rector, Padua University

**Giancarlo Bosetti** | Director, Reset-DoC

### *First session: How does populism take root? Europe, India & other countries*

**Mauro Calise** | Federico II University, Naples

**Sandeep Dikshit** | Member of Parliament, India

**Shashi Tharoor** | Member of Parliament and former minister, India

**Ananya Vajpeyi** | Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, India

*Chair:* **Roberto Toscano** | Former Italian Ambassador to India

### *Second session: Minorities: Christians, Muslims and lower castes in India, migrants in Europe. Between integration, exclusion and discrimination.*

**Vincenzo Pace** | Padua University, Italy

**Stefano Allievi** | Padua University, Italy

**Adnane Mokrani** | Pontifical Institute for Arabic and Islamic Studies, Italy

**Rowena Robinson** | Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai – India

*Chair:* **Vincenzo Milanese** | Padua University, Italy

## Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 10am-5pm

Giorgio Cini Foundation, Sala Barbantini, Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice

### *First session: Minorities and gender: affirmative action, quotas and empowerment. Current challenges in India and Europe*

**Marina Calloni** | Milan-Bicocca University

**Suresh Sharma** | Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi - India

**Binalakshmi Nepram** | Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network/Control Arms Foundation of India

**Samreen Mushtaq** | Voices of young scholars, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi – India

*Chair:* **Ananya Vajpeyi** | Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, India

### *Second session: Welfare, policies and minorities in contexts of social resentment. Coping with political, religious, linguistic and ethnocentric radicalization*

**Giuliano Amato** | Constitutional Court, Italy

**Rajeev Bhargava** | Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, India

**Franca Bimbi** | Padua University

**Mujibur Rehman** | Jamia Millia Islamia, India

*Chair:* **Fabrizio Petri** | Author and diplomat, Italy

## Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – 10am-2pm

Giorgio Cini Foundation, Sala Barbantini, Isola di San Giorgio Maggiore, Venice

### *Final session: Against fear: Cultural and political premises for an inclusive citizenship*

**Will Kymlicka** | Queen's University at Kingston, Canada

**Avishai Margalit** | Princeton University

*Chair:* **Nina zu Fürstenberg** | Chair, Reset-DoC

### *Round-table*

**Giuliano Amato, Rajeev Bhargava, Mauro Calise, Renzo Guolo**

*Chair:* **Georg Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza** | Honorary President, Reset-DoC

*Presentation on the Bharatanatyam dance event at the Malibran Theatre, 8pm*

**Marianna Biadene** (Gamaka Association, Venice)

## The philosophical theme of cultural pluralism

The overall framework subject for the “Venice-Padua-Delhi Seminars” is **cultural pluralism**, seen from the perspective of an analysis of social and political processes and exchanges between the East and the West. The seminars are an opportunity for an in-depth analysis of political, social and economic trends experienced by different countries and societies – such as in India and increasingly more also in Europe – where cultural, ethnic and political differences coexist and interact. Each seminar lasts three days, with five sessions, papers presented by scholars and experts from India, Europe and other parts of the world, as well as a round-table session dedicated to the analysis of “**policies**” concerning minorities and the global challenges posed by our multi-ethnic societies.

### Past editions – the Seminar magazine

Articles and essays from the first edition on *Minorities and Pluralism* ([Delhi, 2010](#)) and those of the second edition on *Cultural difference in times of economic unrest* ([Venice, 2012](#)) were published in special editions of the Indian English-language magazine Seminar: [Number 621, 2011](#) and [Number 649, 2013](#) (accessible on-line). Essays from the third edition, on *Religious Pluralism and Freedom of Expression* ([Delhi October 10-12, 2013](#)) will be published in a special issue of Seminar to be published in 2014 and later on the [www.resetdoc.org](http://www.resetdoc.org) website.

## FREE ENTRY

**For information on the seminar:**

***Reset-Dialogues on Civilizations***

[www.resetdoc.org](http://www.resetdoc.org)

Tel. +39 06 94368323 E-mail: [resetmag@tin.it](mailto:resetmag@tin.it)

**for more detailed information on the Workshop and the Indian dance performance please contact**

FIND India Europe Foundation for New Dialogues

[www.find.org.in](http://www.find.org.in)

Email: [info@find.org.in](mailto:info@find.org.in)

Gamaka Association

[www.associazionegamaka.blogspot.it](http://www.associazionegamaka.blogspot.it)

Email: [gama-ka@live.com](mailto:gama-ka@live.com)

Tel. +39 3465960083

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**Nationalism**  
The 20th Century was par excellence the century of nationalisms. It is sufficient to remember that the causes of the two world wars were directly linked to the consequences of nationalist doctrine exalting all that belongs to one's own nation.  
[Read more](#)

**Reset.it**  
A month of Ideas  
Giancarlo Boselli Editor-in-chief

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**Reset**  
Association for dialogue and intercultural understanding

**RESETDOC VIDEO**  
**If Islam's Militants are Sons of the West**  
Faisal Devji, Oxford University

**ARTICLES for SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 23, 2014**  
-- Previous Issues

**Islamic Philosophy in the Age of Ethical Malaise and Local Turmoil**  
Like other classical world traditions and civilizations that seek renewal for survival, continuity and contribution to world affairs, the Islamic one is convened and questioned, maybe more than others and more than ever before, seeing its geographical and intellectual positions between the so-called East and West, an archaic dichotomy that disrupts politics and stirrs philosophy at the same time. The ongoing dire socio-political chaos in the Arab-Islamic world questions the intellectual tradition of this part of the world, to see where it stands, and what contributions it offers to overcome the turmoil. Reset-Doc is pleased to present three reflections on Islamic Philosophy by Mohammed Hashas (PhD), as part of an ongoing conversation with a civilization that was, and a worldview that is still vibrant and confident that it can still contribute to world intellect and local politics.

- **Past and Present Conditions for Existence and Difference**  
Islamic Philosophy I
- **The Moderns and Contemporaries in Search for a New Paradigm**  
Islamic Philosophy II
- **The Question of Ethics: Taha Abderrahmane's Praxeology and Trusteeship Paradigm**  
Islamic Philosophy III

**DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE**  
**Scotland decides: a call for self-determination within the state**  
Gaetano Pentassuglia, University of Liverpool

**MIDDLE EAST**  
**Silence, Violence and Carnage: What I Have Seen of Syria**  
Lorenzo Declich

**WOMEN**  
**Syrian Kurdistan: the role of women in the battle against IS**  
Antonella Vicini

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19 May 2014  
Seyla Benhabib awarded the  
Meister-Eckhart-Preis 2014

**exporting democracy**  
is socialism liberal?

Papers presented at the seminar will be published in a special issue of the Indian magazine Seminar and in Reset-DoC's online journal, which, since 2007, provides its readers with essays, articles, analyses and videos of significant scientific relevance, both in Italian and in English.