



## 5th workshop: Christian and Islamic “Bildung”: Education, formation, knowledge or attitude?

Discussants: Dr. Reza Arjmand, Växjö and Prof. Dr. Antje Roggenkamp, Münster

Time: October 9th 2023

- 4pm – 6pm GMT (German winter time)
- 45’ presentation
- 45’ for dialogue

### Exposé

What meaning does the expression of Bildung have for teaching and school?

The presenters will discuss concepts, positions, and institutions of Islam and Christianity comparatively, including similarities of the Bible and the Koran, as well as divergences. The presentation further considers historical and social perspectives on Islamic educational philosophy and the role that morality, ethics and spirituality play in educational discourse. In so doing, presenters share insights about Islamic education as it is treated in the notion of tarbiyah or upbringing, Muslim pedagogy, and education as a multifold process.

Similarly, the presenters engage in a discussion about Bildung from a Christian point of view. This discussion features Bildung as it is primarily understood in contrast to upbringing, as improvement, and in relation to socialization or the unconscious imprinting by external factors. Here discussions feature the historical development of the concepts of Bildung and education from Christian sources, including early, more passive, meanings in the Christian Middle Ages that emphasized the idea that man must work on himself and on his perfection, more active definitions developed in the Enlightenment period in which the individual is considered free and education opens up the possibility to develop his/her own identity, and in more critical, subjective sources perspectives that warn against interests of supra institutions asserted on the individual. Drawing on various Christian points of view on Bildung, the presenters consider the ways in which education proves to be an unfinished process.