

## **Call for Papers: Religion and Disinformation**

Venue: The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes

Date: 20<sup>th</sup>–21<sup>st</sup> January, 2025

### **Event Description**

Disinformation poses a real threat to democracy, and recent years have seen religious organisations playing significant roles in both propagating and resisting it. Nonetheless, the role of religious organisations as information actors remains chronically understudied, and what is more, research consistently shows that labelling ‘disinformation’ is not as effective at addressing it as sensitive engagement with the topic and the often emotive reasons that it appeals to particular communities.

This workshop will bring together inter-disciplinary work that examines the informational role of religion and religious organisations across the globe, as well as the social impacts and responses that it engenders. We aim to publish the workshop papers in a special issue of a peer-reviewed journal.

The [Democracy, Disinformation and Religion](#) project invites abstracts on religion and disinformation from scholars in any discipline for this funded workshop. The following list of themes is indicative, but not exhaustive:

- Conceptual treatments of the relationship between religion or religious organisations and (counter)disinformation and/or historical revisionism
- Empirical case studies of religious organisations’ or religious communities’ engagements with disinformation in general, or with specific topics of disinformation
- Comparative case studies of religious organisations’ or religious communities’ engagement with (counter-)disinformation
- Work on the theology of (counter-)disinformation

Please send **250-word abstracts and a short biography** to [precious.chatterje-doodly@open.ac.uk](mailto:precious.chatterje-doodly@open.ac.uk) & [paul-francois.tremlett@open.ac.uk](mailto:paul-francois.tremlett@open.ac.uk) by **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October**. Successful applicants will be notified by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Full draft papers of up to 7,000w will be due by Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January.