

Call for Papers:

Social Movements, Rebellions and Revolutions through Religious Contention

A Thematic Session at the

International Society for the Sociology of Religion Conference

35th Congress

Barcelona, Spain

9-12 July 2019

While religion is often recognized as a social force that maintains, if not legitimates, the socio-political order, religion has also played a role in contentious politics. For this panel, we will invite papers that explore the relationship religion – as a shared cultural system, source of solidarity, and ways of thinking, feeling, and acting – has to contentious politics. We are interested in understanding how and under what conditions religion functions as a progressive and/or reactionary force that compels people to challenge or protect the order of things. We are particularly interested in prophetic and messianic movements, secular religions (e.g., The Cult of the Supreme Being and Science as Religion), and liberation theologies. While we welcome contemporary explorations (e.g., popular religion and evangelism in Latin America, the Arab Spring, and resistance to globalization), we also welcome the exploration of past events (e.g., the English, French, Iranian, and Nicaraguan revolutions, Taiping and Boxer Rebellions in China, German Peasant Wars, and Heretical Sects during the Middle Ages). Special consideration will be given to theoretical treatments and papers that focus on case studies outside the U.S. Priority will be given to papers that aim to make sense of the institutional, organizational, discursive (e.g., using the Bible or other sacred texts in discussions), and/or cultural mechanisms that give religion its contentious structure.

Please send 250 word abstracts to organizers:

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