

Round Table Discussion (Day 1, 16 October 2018)

Moderators:

Dr Zuzanna Bogumił & Dr Yuliya Yurchuk

Panelists:

- **Rabbi Yehoshua Ellis
(Shavei Israel in Katowice)**

Yehoshua Ellis (born 1977 in Overland Park, Kansas) is an American rabbi working in Poland, in 2010-2015 was the chief rabbi of Upper Silesia and rabbi of the Jewish Religious Community in Katowice. Since 2015 he is assistant rabbi of the Jewish Religious Community in Warsaw. He has the Szoycheta entitlements.

Rabbi Ellis is a graduate of the Kansas City Academy and Colorado College. In 2000, he graduated from Naropa University in Boulder, and in 2010 he graduated from the Beit Midrash Hasphardi rabbinical exams. He received the rabbinical ordinance at the Shehebar Sephardic Center.

- **Pastor Thomas Jeutner
(Evangelical Reconciliation Parish/ Chapel of Reconciliation, Berlin)**

Thomas Jeutner (born 1960) has been pastor of the Reconciliation community (Versöhnungsgemeinde), located in the Wedding district of Berlin, since August 2013. He is a trained and specialized worker in telecommunications. He is a member of the synod of the church district of Berlin-Northeast and belongs to the working-group "Remembrance work" religious memorial sites in Berlin and to the "Scientific Advisory Council Culture of Remembrance" of the Protestant Church in Berlin Brandenburg Silesian Upper Lusatia (EKBO). The church authorities commissioned him with the mandate in the Foundation Council of the Berlin Wall Memorial. Collaboration in the municipal district council Brunnenviertel Ackerstraße (in the locality of Gesundbrunnen, district of Wedding). Most recently, Thomas Jeutner spent twelve years as parish pastor in Hamburg-Sasel, with an emphasis on the topics district networking and public relations. He began his journalistic education in 1989 as a press vicar of the Protestant weekly newspaper "Die Kirche" (The Church) in the Sophienstraße in Berlin. After his parish vicariate in the district of Berlin-Pankow, he led as a press clergyman and church journalist from 1992 to 2001 the press office of the Greifswald Consistory and the Pomeranian editorial department of the church newspaper.

The German division also touches the biography of Thomas Jeutner. He sees as a challenge the close cooperation with the Berlin Wall Memorial and the fact that one of the priorities of his pastor's office is the approach to the visitors of the Memorial. He would like to work to ensure that the once proclaimed in 1894 church name - "reconciliation" - remains vivid in its current context. So that in this historic place, wounded by the consequences of the war, a place that was like almost no other site a symbol of divided Berlin, healing remembrance can take place today and church peace witness lives.

- **Archpriest Kirill Kaleda**
(Church of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, Butovo)

Protoiereus **Kiril Kaleda** was born on 7 June, 1958 in Moscow and was raised in believing orthodox family. He is a grandson of the hieromartyr Vladimir Ambarcumov, who was killed in Butovo on 5 November, 1937.

Kiril Kaleda graduated from the Moscow State University at the Faculty of Geology. Until mid-90s, he had been working as a researcher of the Geological Institute at Russian Academy of Sciences. He published more than 30 academic papers. Kiril Kaleda obtained a PhD in Geological and Mineralogical Sciences.

Kiril Kaledov has been involved in the memorialisation process of the Butovo Firing Range (rus. *Бутовский полигон*) since 1994. It is the largest place of the mass executions and burials of victims of political terror of the mid-20th century in Moscovian region. After he was ordained a priest in 1998, he was appointed the abbot of the Church of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia (Свв. *Новомучеников и Исповедников Российских в Бутове*). Two orthodox churches to commemorate the victims of the Butovo Firing Range were built under his leadership. He carried out the academic research as well as landscaping works on the territory of the Butovo Firing Range monument. Kiril Kaledov was coordinating the creation of the memorial called 'Memory Garden' (rus. *Сад памяти*). He has elaborated a number of articles focusing on the history of the firing range and the preservation of memory of the tragic pages of Russian history.

He is a member of the Church-community Council of the Patriarch of Moscow and All Rus' on commemoration of the New Martyrs and Confessors of the Russian Church. He is also a participant of the Interdepartmental Working Group dealing with the memory politics on commemoration of the victims of political repression.

Married, has two children.

- **Priest Prof. Piotr Mazurkiewicz**
(Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw)

Piotr Mazurkiewicz (born 1960 in Warsaw). Polish Catholic presbyter, prof. dr hab., academic teacher at the University of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński in Warsaw, Faculty of Historical and Social Sciences. He was secretary general of the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union COMECE in the years 2008-2012.

He graduated from electrical studies at the Warsaw Polytechnic and held a priesthood at the Metropolitan Major Seminary in Warsaw. He was ordained a priest in 1988. PhD thesis *Kościół w społeczeństwie otwartym. Spór o obecność Kościoła w społeczeństwie polskim w okresie transformacji* [Church in an open society. The dispute about the presence of the Church in Polish society in the period of transformation] was defended in 1996 at the Department of Church Historical and Social Sciences of the Academy of Catholic Theology in Warsaw . He received the postdoctoral degree in 2002 with his dissertation *Europeanisation of Europe. Cultural identity of Europe in the context of integration processes* at the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

He was a member of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Political Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences. He was also professor at the Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Warsaw.

He was the director of the UKSW Political Studies Institute. He published, among others *Church and democracy* (2001), *Europeanisation of Europe. Cultural identity of Europe in the context of integration processes* (2001), *Wind in the sky, prayer* (2001), *Violence in politics* (2006), *In the land of celibacy* (2014), *Europe as a kinder surprise* (2017), *Two towers and a minaret. Sketches from the Catholic social teaching* (2017). For many years associated with the Emmanuel Community.

- **Sufi Andrzej Saramowicz**
(**Jalāl ad-Dīn Muhammad Rūmī Sufi Polish Foundation**)

For the last twenty five years Andrzej has been involved in the tradition of Islamic spirituality - Sufism. In 1996 upon his return from Australia, Andrzej established a branch of the School of Sufi Teaching in Poland, where he is a teacher of the Sufi meditation and other Sufi practices.

Andrzej has been organising an annual international Sufi meditation retreats in Poland for over ten years. He is involved in the interfaith dialogue, and is currently Co-President of the Common Council of Muslims and Catholics. Andrzej introduced in 2011 celebrations of the World Interfaith Harmony Week into Poland.

He is a founder and a president of the Rumi Foundation of Poland. Andrzej is a translator, he also authored many articles in various Polish magazines, and co-edits the quarterly magazine "Meditations". He translated "Turning Towards the Heart. Awakening of the Sufi Path", and this year he published the book *Wisdom on Nasreddin Hodja*.

He has lectured on Islamic spirituality, participated in many national and international conferences, and spoke on Sufism at Polish Universities. Andrzej is a frequent guest of many radio and TV programmes.