

## Religious Freedom in a Changing World

September 29, 2026

Washington, DC

### Agenda (Tentative)

#### Tuesday, September 29, 2026

09:00 - 09:30 Registration & Coffee Reception

#### Opening Session

09:30 - 10:00 Welcome Remarks by AISS Director  
Address by Host Institution Representative  
Keynote Address: Religious Freedom in a Changing World

#### Panel I: The Evolving Role of Religion in Contemporary Societies

10:00 - 11:30 Moderator: (TBC)  
Speaker I: (TBC)  
Speaker II: (TBC)  
Speaker III: (TBC)  
Speaker IV: (TBC)  
Open Discussion  
Topics will include secularism, public religion, pluralism, identity politics, and democratic governance.

#### 11:30 - 12:00 Tea Break & Networking

#### Panel II: Metaphysics Meets Artificial Intelligence

12:00 - 13:30 Moderator: (TBC)  
Speaker I: (TBC)  
Speaker II: (TBC)  
Speaker III: (TBC)  
Speaker IV: (TBC)  
Open Discussion  
Topics will include AI ethics, digital religion, algorithmic amplification of religious discourse, and spirituality in the age of technology.

#### 13:30 - 14:00 Lunch Break

#### Special Conversation / Fireside Talk: Religious Freedom and the Future of Global Order

14:00 - 14:45 Moderator: (TBC)  
Speaker: (TBC)

A high-level dialogue with policymakers, scholars, or religious leaders on emerging global challenges and opportunities surrounding religious liberty and coexistence.

**Panel III: Religious Despotism and Political Pluralism**

14:45 - 16:00

Moderator: (TBC)  
  
Speaker I: (TBC)  
Speaker II: (TBC)  
Speaker III: (TBC)  
Speaker IV: (TBC)  
Open Discussion

Topics may include state control of religion, authoritarian governance, minority rights, apostasy debates, and freedom from religion.

**Panel IV: Islamic Renaissance: Possibilities and Hurdles**

16:00 - 17:30

Moderator: (TBC)  
  
Speaker I: (TBC)  
Speaker II: (TBC)  
Speaker III: (TBC)  
Speaker IV: (TBC)  
Open Discussion

Topics may include reformist thought, intellectual renewal, education, religious freedom in Muslim-majority societies, and contemporary Islamic discourse.

**Night of Rumi**

19:00 - 22:00

Venue: Museum of the Bible