

## **GATEKEEPERS OF CHRISTENDOM? RELIGIOUS POLITICS AND THE CHALLENGE OF ISLAM IN EASTERN EUROPE**

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This presentation will examine how East European politicians and citizens who base their politics in Christianity have been responding to the new prominence of Islam in European affairs, especially in light of European integration processes that promise to make the former communist countries into new destinations for Muslim immigration.

Professor Patterson's research centers on the history of 20th-century Eastern Europe and the Balkans, with major emphases on everyday life and consumer culture and on the interplay of Islam, Christianity and secular society. He teaches on a wide range of topics, including everyday life under authoritarian rule; Islam and immigration in contemporary Europe; Americanization and anti-Americanism; law and religion; and the international law of war crimes and genocide.