



23 March 2026

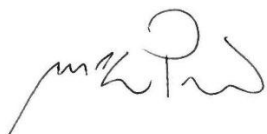
To Whom It May Concern,

We write in strong support of the hosting of the 22nd European Association for the Study of Religions (EASR) Conference in Bucharest, 20-25 September 2026 on the theme of “Religions 360°”. The objective of the EASR is to promote the academic study of religions through the international collaboration of scholars normally resident in Europe whose research has a bearing on the subject and is affiliated to the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR), which is active on a worldwide basis. The academic study of religions is crucial for the navigation of a multicultural world, increasing empathy, appreciation and acceptance between cultures and within societies, and in reaching a deeper knowledge and understanding of our interconnected politics and histories.

The conference is organised by Dr Eugen Ciurtin, Research Professor and Director of the Institute for the History of Religions at the Romanian Academy, Bucharest, and colleagues at the institute Dr Daniela Dumbravă, Professor Gabriela Cursaru (now University of Montreal & the Scientific Council of the Institute) and Professor Bogdan Tătaru-Cazaban, founding member and past director of the Institute (2018-2022). The event will bring together delegates from 54 countries in six continents: Europe [30], Asia [15], Africa [4], Australia [1], South America [2] and North America [2]. Academics from around the world will gather with our Romanian colleagues for this in-person event in Bucharest.

Significantly, the conference marks the 20th anniversary of our first EASR conference in Bucharest on 20-23 September 2006, focusing on the legacy of Mircea Eliade. It had been attended by delegates from more than thirty countries and was the first of its kind in Romania. Eugen Ciurtin was also a core member of the organising team for this landmark event with representatives from the Romanian Association for the History of Religions (RAHR), and generous support and sponsorship from the Romanian government and other public bodies. The RAHR has been a national association of the EASR since 2002 and a member of the IAHR since 2005. The Romanian field of the study of religions is extremely important and our colleagues there are valued highly in our international scholarly community. We therefore wholeheartedly endorse the hosting of the conference in Romania and emphasise its importance to those providing local support to this event.

Yours Faithfully,

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Dr Marco Pasi

EASR President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jenny Butler'.

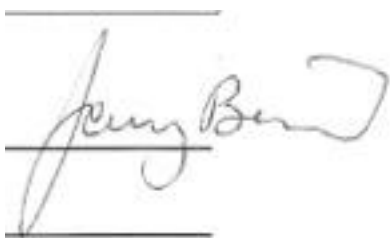
Dr Jenny Butler

EASR General Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Knott'.

Professor Kim Knott

Former EASR President (2020-2025)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jenny Berglund', written between two horizontal lines.

Professor Jenny Berglund

Former EASR General Secretary (2020-2025)