EPIL – A European Organization

EPIL is an international association under Swiss law that grew out of a cooperative project among religious communities, nongovernmental organizations and universities. EPIL works with partners from various cities where EPIL modules have taken place. Its network is growing larger by the day.

EPIL Board

Rev Barbara Heyse-Schaefer, Vienna, A
Sabiha Husic, M.Sc., Zenica, BiH
Dr. Manuela Kalsky, Amsterdam, NL
Dr. Emel Topçu, Ankara, TR

An international, interdisciplinary team of educators, Christian and Muslim theologians, and specialists of intercultural and interreligious learning, directs and accompanies EPIL’s programs.

New Study Course 2015-2017

The new study course will begin in October 2015. It is open to women from all walks of life, who could benefit from a thorough training in managing religious diversity. The working language is English on all international modules, and within the country groups the different national languages.

Registration

Registration deadline for EPIL IV is June 26, 2015. For registration please contact your national facilitator.

The programme booklet will give information about who can apply, requirements and costs for participation, and who is eligible for support. More information is available on the website (www.epil.ch) or from EPIL’s international coordinator.
**EUROPEAN**

Religion shapes people's identities and influences relationships. Contrary to traditional European self-understanding, Europe is multi-religious. People of different faiths and cultures have to work out ways of overcoming historical animosity and find ways of living together peacefully and constructively in the context of Europe’s secular societies.

**PROCESS ORIENTED**

EPIL offers a unique process of learning through a carefully structured combination of learning methods, comprising academic input, live encounters with people and communities, training in intercultural and interreligious learning, and participation in religious and spiritual life. In this process the learning experiences are continuously linked to real-life situations.

**INNOVATIVE**

EPIL is innovative:
- It focuses on women as major agents for developing a culture of peace in everyday life
- It focuses on Christian-Muslim relations, an area of potential conflict in European societies
- It focuses on persons who in their private and professional lives, are engaged in interreligious issues and interaction (social workers, media workers, civil servants, church/mosque workers, NGOs, etc.)

**LONG-TERM LEARNING**

The Roaming College 2015 – 2017

EPIL’s new two year intensive study course is organized in the form of roaming college. Its four modules take students to four cities in four countries, where particular problems arise and where people are searching for creative responses. In between the international modules, there are activities within the country-based learning group to follow up on the learning experiences and to help embed the learning process into daily life. These activities comprise meetings between modules, particularly a three-day meeting for the national module in the various countries, and individual project work by EPIL participants.