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From: 5.1.2e

Sent: Mon 10/23/2023 3:20:56 PM

Subject: Follow Up to the Essaouira Conference Cancellation

Received: Mon 10/23/2023 3:20:56 PM

Dear all,

We would like to apologise again for the last-minute cancellation of the Conference « Law’s Making, Unmaking and Remaking of Religion ? Middle Eastern and Comparative Perspectives » initially scheduled to be held in Essaouira on 17-19 October.

Unfortunately, the rapid and tragic evolution of events in Israel-Palestine has bounced on the security situation in many countries in the region. As such, there was a substantial risk that our conference could be jeopardised by some unforeseen event with dramatic consequences. This situation led Moroccan authorities to cancel the event.

While our thoughts are with the affected people in Israel-Palestine and beyond, and in the hope that you and your families and beloved ones are safe, we are exploring different ways to ensure that all your generous efforts in preparing for the conference will not be in vain:

- 1. **Publication:** An edited volume collecting the papers scheduled to be discussed in Essaouira.
- 2. **Workshop:** Within available resources, a follow-up workshop to discuss the drafts submitted for the edited volume. Tentatively, this workshop could be held in Bordeaux, France, in Spring 2024 (exact dates and precise format will be determined at a later stage).

In order to plan for both the publication and the follow-up workshop, we would need to receive draft papers by 31 January 2024. Drafts should be within the range of 8,000-12,000 words.

Please let us know if you have any concerns, we will otherwise look forward to receiving the drafts in the new year, and bring this exciting project across the finish line/*ilá barr al-amān*.

On behalf of the conference convenors