

## **PLENARY LECTURE "PEDAGOGY"**

Presenter: Martin Rothgangel, University of Vienna

Title: **"Combatting Anti-Semitism. An Interdisciplinary Approach"**

Not only sociological analyses of the current spread of anti-Semitic attitudes and behaviors, but also recent textbook and curriculum analyses show how difficult it is to fight anti-Semitism effectively. The reasons for this may be manifold, but the reflections of this lecture seek to illustrate, using the example of religious education, that an interdisciplinary approach can explain these difficulties and show ways for effective pedagogical interventions.

For example, historical studies show the reciprocal entanglement of different forms of anti-Semitism as well as the effectiveness of black and white stereotyping in which Jews make up the dark backdrop against which individual identity stand out all the more positively.

In view of these historical analyses, a well-founded choice can be made from the wealth of psychological theories of prejudice that is fit to explain the origin and, conversely, the fight against anti-Semitic prejudice. In a pedagogical context this means, for example, that prejudices arising from the above-mentioned stereotyping can be remedied by highlighting commonalities without concealing differences.

However, recent textbook and curriculum analyses show that pedagogical interventions need to be persistent, as the implementation of these interventions in textbooks and curricula, for example, is slow and not straightforward.