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978-0-521-86011-6 - Islam in Europe: Diversity, Identity and Influence

Edited by Aziz al-Azmeh and Effie Fokas

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Islam in Europe

Events over recent years have increased the global interest in Islam. This volume seeks to combat generalisations about the Muslim presence in Europe by illuminating its diversity across Europe and offering a more realistic, highly differentiated picture. It contends with the monist concept of identity that suggests Islam is the shared and main definition of Muslims living in Europe. The contributors also explore the influence of the European Union on the Muslim communities within its borders, and examine how the EU is in turn affected by the Muslim presence in Europe. This book comes at a critical moment in the evolution of the place of Islam within Europe and will appeal to scholars, students and practitioners in the fields of European studies, politics and policies of the European Union, sociology, sociology of religion, and international relations. It also addresses the wider framework of uncertainties and unease about religion in Europe.

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Abbreviations

ACC	Association of Candidate Countries
AIEF	Association of Islamic Students in France
AKP	Justice and Development Party (<i>Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi</i>)
BSP	Bulgarian Socialist Party
CCEE	Council of European Bishops' Conferences (Catholic)
CEC	Conference of European Churches
CESE	Central-East and Southeast Europe
CMCE	Muslim Council of Cooperation in Europe
CO.RE.IS	<i>Comunità Religiosa Islamica</i> (Italy)
COMECE	Commission of the National Bishops' Conferences of the European Union
CSF	Community Support Framework
<i>DITIB</i>	Turkish Islamic Union for Religious Affairs (<i>Diyanet İşleri Türk İslam Birliği</i>)
<i>DIYANET</i>	Presidency of Religious Affairs (<i>Diyanet İşleri Başkanlığı</i>)
EC	European Community
ECHR	European Court of Human Rights
EEC	European Economic Community
EECCS	European Ecumenical Commission for Church and Society
EKD	Evangelical Church of Germany
ELIAMEP	Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy
EMP	Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
EPP	European People's Party
EU	European Union
EUMC	European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia
FAST	Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology
FEMYSO	Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations
FIOE	Federation of Islamic Organisations in Europe

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x List of abbreviations

FSU	Forward Studies Unit
GDP	gross domestic product
GOPA	Group of Policy Advisers
HRWF	Human Rights Without Frontiers
INED	the French National Demographics Institute
IRN	Islamic Council of the Netherlands
ISPA	Instrument for Structural Policies for pre-Accession
ISSR	International Society for the Sociology of Religion
JMF	<i>Jeunes Musulmans de France</i>
MEP	Member of the European Parliament
MRF	Movement for Rights and Freedom
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NMSV	National Movement of Simeon II
NOCRIME	Network of Comparative Research on Islam and Muslims in Europe
OCIPE	Catholic European Study and Information Centre
PHARE	<i>Pologne-Hongrie: aide à la reconstruction économique</i>
PKK	Kurdistan Workers Party (<i>Partiya Karkerên Kurdistan</i>)
ROP	Regional Operational Programme
SAPARD	Special Accession Programme for Agricultural and Rural Development
SBiH	<i>Stranka za Bosnu i Hercegovinu</i>
SDA	Party of Democratic Action – <i>Stranka Demokratske Akcije</i>
SP	<i>Saadet Partisi</i>
TESEV	Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation
UCOII	<i>Unione delle Comunità ed Organizzazioni Islamiche in Italia</i>
UDF	Union of Democratic Forces
UIOE	Union of Islamic Organisations in Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
US	United States
WP	Welfare Party (<i>Refah Partisi</i>)
ZMD	Central Council for Muslims in Germany (<i>Zentralrat der Muslim in Deutschland</i>)

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Preface

This text emanates from a research project based at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP), entitled 'Forum for the Interdisciplinary Study of Christian–Muslim Relations in twenty-first Century Europe'. The project entailed a series of seminars, conferences and workshops which brought together scholars from all parts of Europe for rich discussion on the development of Christian–Muslim relations as we know them and on prospects for the future of Islam in Europe. The breadth of discussions in these gatherings is far too great to capture in a single text, but the contributions of all participants helped to shape the present volume: we would like to express our gratitude for this, as well as our thanks to Elizabeth Phocas for initiating this project, to Thanos Dokos and Christianna Karageorgopoulou for their involvement throughout, and to the devoted and hospitable ELIAMEP staff.

The chapters in this volume reflect a consensus amongst all the contributors in terms of their shared aim for the literature on Islam in Europe. Beyond this, though, each author presents a very distinct voice on his or her particular theme and also uses Muslim terminology, and spelling, in his or her preferred manner, explaining the use of certain terms as needed. Accordingly, we have not provided a glossary for the text as a whole and allow rather this element of diversity in the writing on Islam.

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and
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