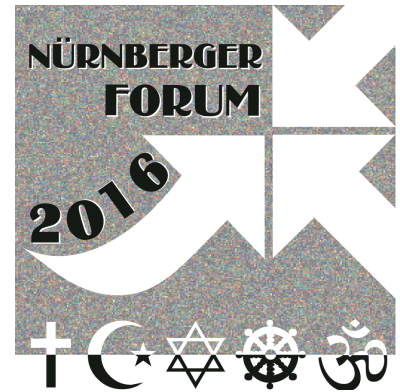


Peter Bubmann

**Culture of Remembrance as Place and Shape of Public Theology
and Public Education**



ABSTRACT

Late modern societies are constituted in various public spheres and thus cultivate their identities. One specific variant form of public self-assurance on the part of a society is its culture of remembrance and commemoration. It may take the shape of remembering historical dates, in Germany with a particular focus on the period of National Socialism, but also for instance that of celebrating the Reformation Jubilee in 2017. For that, contributions of theological interpretation are asked for on a regular basis – and they are needed, too.

In the recent past, a culture of commemoration has continued to emerge when specific events of remembrance are following catastrophes of all kinds, including acts of terror and killing sprees. To those, religious groups especially contribute with their innermost symbolic-liturgical forms of communication in order to publicly commemorate the victims.

The presentation is making the case, that such forms of public liturgical presence of religion in the multiple public realms of society are in fact most important contributions to public presence of religion and thus require particularly strong attention in Public Theology's reflections. The fundamental principle of „bilingualism“ resp. the task of „translating“ on part of Public Theology therefore is in need of completion by considering the potential for interpreting immediate religious forms of speech and communication in the different public realms.