

Lecture as part of the Teaching Assistantship Programme 2017

## **The Impact of Anti-Terrorism Laws on Religious Freedom: Cameroon's Approach in Combating Terrorism and the Role of the Church**

### **Organizational details**

Instructor: Eric Che Muma

Date: June 7, 2017 from 16.00 to 18.00 h

Location: Campus Wirtschaftswissenschaften, Licher Strasse 68, D-35390 Giessen, room 024 (HS 024)

### **Content**

Recent developments in the international human rights law have shown that humanity is at great risk of instability and a likely effect of III World War, which may result from religious hatred. One of such causes is Terrorism the biggest threat to international Peace and security. Terrorism can be describe as the worst form of threat to the long lasting peace mankind has suffered for since the aftermath of World War I and II. Since 2013, the world at large and Cameroon, in particular, has suffered from great atrocities caused by different terrorist groups. One of such groups is Boko haram, Alshabab just to name a few. In a Similar vein, Nigeria, Kenya, Germany, France, UK, U.S.A, Belgium, Turkey and others have also been affected. This may have resulted from religious diversity, the desire for continuous stay in power and economic interest. Consequently, attempts have so far been made by states in general and Cameroon in particular in countering terrorism through the enactment of anti-Terrorism legislation, boarder control and restrictions. Whether these measures are in line with their human rights obligations and respect for other fundamental human rights and freedoms cognizant of Globalisation, Universality, interdependency and indivisibility of human rights is a matter of great attention.

The Lecture will take into consideration the background of religious freedom in Cameroon and other related forms of freedoms closely linked to Religion, the meaning of Religious Radicalism and Terrorism, Scholarly approaches towards Terrorism, the relationship between Terrorism, People, church and politics. The lecture also aim at examining the legal Framework for the universal recognition of fundamental human rights and freedoms, Cameroon's approach in combating Terrorism, Obligations of states to ensure human rights protection, the character of the Cameroon anti-terror law, the impact of the anti-Terror Law on the right to life, freedom of religion, freedom of expression, association, assembly etc. Cameroons approach towards Terrorism compared to the Case of Germany, France and UK are also an important point to contention.

The outcome of the Anti-Terror Law and the observation of Non-governmental institutions, the role of the church in Combating terrorism, their challenges and way forward will also be taken into consideration. Only when this has been done that one can further argue and appreciate that anti-terror laws enacted by most states in general and Cameroon, in particular, are applied for the purpose for which they are intended and not to crack down on civilians for the sole aim of public order and national security.

**Target group**

Students, Doctoral Candidates and Postdocs of all Faculties

**Course language**

English

**Registration**

No registration needed