

# EUREL

## Guidelines for correspondents

### I. General information

#### 1. General principles

##### The topics covered by Eurel

For each country, information is given under a number of predefined headings.

The **general overview** and **historical highlights** provide basic information.

Next comes the **legal status of religions**.

The sections on **social and religious data** and **religion and society** give a quantitative overview of religion and an analysis of its place in society.

The **current debates** take into account recent developments, and the **further information** heading provides bibliographical references and significant links.

#### 2. Editorial instructions

Reading on a screen is not the same as reading a printed text. Dense text is very tiring for the eyes. Material published online should be:

- . **concise**: maximum length of an article is 2 ½ screens (two pages A4 max.) If the document is longer, write a summary and provide the full article in pdf format.
  - . **compact**: remove the footnotes (put any bibliographical references in or after the text).
  - . **clear**: use short sentences, divide the text into paragraphs, and use subheadings
- Sources of data must **always** be mentioned (give the internet address if necessary).
- Internet users expect up-to-date information. Articles must be updated in line with social or legal changes. Information and bibliographical references must be recent.
- For copyright reasons, it is not possible to copy information already published elsewhere.. If the information is already on the net, then you can either provide a link to the existing page, or re-write a text using this information and mention the source.
- A piece of information may be related to several topics. For instance, education will be dealt with under the heading "juridical status of religions", "religion and society", and possibly "topical items". Please remember to **mention possible links** to related headings.

## II. The topics and their content

### General overview

The *general overview* offers basic geographic and demographic data such as area, population, or main cities. It also provides a short presentation of the religious situation of the country. Do not forget to provide a brief presentation of the religious situation of the country.

### Historical highlights

The *historical highlights* heading contains two chapters: firstly, a chronology, providing reference points in the history of the country.

Secondly, the historical survey provides significant elements of the country's recent history, focussing on religious history.

### Legal status of religions

The heading presents legislation concerning religious activities and organisation of religious denominations.

In different chapters, this heading provides:

- A *general presentation* of the status of religious denominations (type of legal regime, legal aspect of church-state relations)
- The *specific stipulations* concerning namely the financing of religious denominations, the status of schooling, of marriage; as well as any other significant information.
- The *main texts* (constitutional laws, treaties, acts...). A link to the entire text is provided, usually through the LEGIREL database managed by PRISME-SDRE.

### Social and religious data

This heading provides a survey of the state of the main religions, given via quantitative information. Detailed facts and figures should be given from a historical viewpoint as much as possible.

Firstly, the *sources of information* are presented (how and where information is collected and broadcast, and how reliable it is). Please give the address of websites providing statistics and survey results.

The *principal religions and denominations* are then presented, *other religious groups* also. Please provide quantitative data as far as possible.

A chapter on *religious belonging and religious demography* provides facts and information on religions, focussing on their importance and evolution,

The chapter on *religious geography* which outlines the geographical distribution of religious affiliation should explain the reasons and the sociological impact of such a distribution. It also highlights the importance of clergy. The information provided may cover all the religions or focus more precisely on one in particular.

The *religious participation* chapter contains three parts: religious practice, financial participation, religious manifestations such as meetings, pilgrimages etc. This chapter favours a comparative perspective, between the different countries as well as, for each country, for its recent development.

The *religious opinion and religious beliefs* chapter provides an estimate of their evolution, namely through information provided by polls.

This chapter gives priority to quantitative information and includes statistics (i.e. censuses, figures provided by the institutions). Poll results, however, should be included in the chapter on religious opinions and beliefs.

## Religion and society

Under this heading, we assess the impact of religion on different aspects of social life and its legal treatment in the country.

The heading is divided into seven chapters: questions of *schooling*, questions concerning *religious minorities* (with a specific interest for Islam), questions concerning *social welfare*, a chapter concerning religions in and through the *media*, one concerning the influence of religions on matters of *health*, one taking into account questions related to *death*, and the last one dealing with the questions related to *religious feasts* and public holidays.

## Current debates

This heading is updated at least on a quarterly basis; ancient chapters can be found under the "archives" item.

The **current debates** take into account any aspect of the religion which emerges in the public debate. This heading can contain one or several chapters, each one expressing a matter of general interest; it highlights the stakes and expresses the different trends of opinion.

## Research and higher education

**Research and higher education** informs on the institutional framework of teaching and research in law and sociology of religions in each country (university syllabus, research institutions, associations...). It presents comparative information on matters such as: where the research and teaching take place for law and sociology of religions, as well as a presentation of the forms of institutionalization and trends of thought of the research.

Under the **further information** heading, bibliographical marks, the official documents and reports and a list of links are found.

The *bibliographical marks* contain three parts: references in law and sociology of religions, and possibly history.

The references under law of religions primarily include legal analysis and commentary books. Collections of texts could possibly be listed provided they are exclusively devoted to the topic being discussed.

In sociology of religions the titles refer to texts that explain the state of religion in a given country rather than ones that only give general introductions.

A list of *official documents and reports* concerning religion, as well as means of obtaining them, is provided here.

The *useful links* direct the reader to websites that provide interesting information on religion. It would be helpful to include a brief explanation on the content and style of the website as well as a list of the languages in which the website is available.

## Standards for bibliographic references

### - Book

(AUTHOR) LAST NAME, first name (responsibility), Book Title. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher, year of publication. (Series)

Example :

CHADWICK, Henry, WARD, Allison (eds.) *Not Angels, but Anglicans: A History of Christianity in the British Isles*. Norwich: Canterbury Press, 2000.

### - Book section

(AUTHOR) LAST NAME, first name, "Chapter title", in Book title, Editors (responsibility). Place of publication: Publisher, year of publication. (Series), page range.

Example :

WOLF, Christian, "Religiöse Pluralisierung in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland", in *Soziale Integration*, J. Friedrichs, J. W. Jagodzinski (dir.). Opladen: Westdeutscher Verlag, 1999, S. 320-348.

### - Journal article

(AUTHOR) LAST NAME, first name, "Article title", Journal name, volume number, page range.

Example :

SCHANDA, Balázs, "Church and State in Hungary in 1999. The Funding of the Churches in Hungary", *European Journal for Church and State Research*, 7/2000, p. 259-278.

### **III. The newsletter**

On-line subscribers will receive the newsletter twice a year. This newsletter provides information concerning changes and updates of the website; it also stresses news concerning sociology and law of religions: publication of works, articles or surveys, conferences, current legal topics... Each correspondent is requested to provide useful information concerning his/her country before the publication of each newsletter.

Archives of the newsletter can be found on the website (under *Newsletter*).

### **IV. Promotion of the website**

Correspondents are invited to promote the Eurel site, and especially to provide a link to the website on their personal website or page, or on the site of their home institution.

A document of presentation of the Eurel project is available at the bottom of the page "Who are we" (pdf, A4 double page in French and in English). It can be printed and distributed during various demonstrations or meetings. A presentation of the Eurel website (power point) is also available upon request.