

# Preface

The present volume in the book series “Key Concepts in Interreligious Discourses” (KCID) contains the results of a conference on the concept of human rights in Judaism, Christianity and Islam held at the Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg on December 15–16, 2016. The conference was generously funded by the Hanns Seidel Foundation, which I wish to thank for its manifold and continuous support of our investigation of interreligious discourses in the service of social cohesion and mutual understanding among people of different faith.

The conference and book series “Key Concepts in Interreligious Discourses” (KCID) belong to the main projects of the Bavarian Research Center for Interreligious Discourses (BaFID). The main aim of the Center is the study of the fundamental ideas and central concepts in Judaism, Christianity and Islam in order to uncover their reciprocal connections and reveal similarities and differences between these three religions. In this way, BaFID endeavors to deepen peaceful relationships between religious communities by communicating obtained research results. In addition to the published volumes, particularly salient selections from each volume are made available online in Arabic, English and German on BaFID’s website.

In this fashion, BaFID fulfills its aspirations not only by reflecting on central religious ideas amongst a small group of academic specialists, but also by disseminating such ideas in a way appealing to the broader public. Academic research which puts itself at the service of society is vital in order to counteract powerful contemporary trends towards a form of segregation rooted in ignorance, and to strengthen mutual respect and acceptance amongst religions. Such a result is guaranteed due to the methodology deployed by the research center, namely the discursive investigation of the concepts, as documented in the present volume on the concept of human rights.

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Georges Tamer  
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