

## DIETMAR WERNER WINKLER

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Paris-Lodron University of Salzburg  
Center for the study of the Christian East  
Department Biblical Studies and Ecclesiastical History  
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Born April 15, 1963 in Wolfsberg/Carinthia (Austria).

1969 – 1973: Primary school.  
1973 – 1981: Benedictine High School Academy of St. Paul's Abbey/Carinthia (Austria).

### RESEARCH FIELDS

Past and present, theology, political contexts and culture of Syriac, Coptic, Armenian, Ethiopian and Indian Christianity; History and cultural exchange of Christianity along the Silk Roads (Persia, Central Asia, China); current ecumenical theological dialogues with Oriental Christianity;

### ACADEMIC BACKGROUND AND DEGREES

December 2000: *Habilitation (Dr. habil.)* (University of Graz) for Patrology, History of Dogma and Ecumenical Theology.  
September 1998: *Certificate in Syriac* (Mahatma Ghandi University Kottayam/India).  
June 1995: *Doctor Theologiae (Dr. theol., summa cum laude)*, University of Innsbruck).  
January 1991: *Magister Theologiae (Mag. theol., summa cum laude)*, University of Graz).  
1989 – 1990: *Certificate in Ecumenical Studies* (University of Geneva, Switzerland), Graduate School of Ecumenical Studies at the Ecumenical Institute of the World Council of Churches in Bossey.  
June 1989: *Magister Philosophiae (Mag. phil., University of Graz/Austria)*.  
1982-1989: Studies in Theology, Philology, Ancient History and Religious Pedagogics in Graz (Austria), Geneva (Switzerland) and Innsbruck (Austria)

### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Head of *Department of Biblical Studies and Ecclesiastical History* (2006-09; 2013-15; since 2019)
- Associate Director of *ZECO-Zentrum zur Erforschung des Christlichen Ostens/ Center for the Study of the Christian East* (Salzburg University), since 2013
- *(Full) Professor of Patristic Studies and Ecclesiastical History*, Salzburg (Austria), since 2005

2015-2017: *Dean of the Theological Faculty of Salzburg University*  
2006-2013: *Director of the Mayr-Melnhof Institute of Eastern Christian Studies* (which became the ZECO)  
  
2003-2005: *Associate Director of the Division of Religious and Theological Studies and Professor of Religion Boston University* (Massachusetts, USA). Guest Lectures at: Harvard University, Catholic University of America, Boston College, Boston Theological Institute, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (Brookline, Massachusetts).  
2002-2003: *Professor of Patrology, Holy Cross Cistercian School of Theology* (Austria). *Associate Professor of Patristics and Ecumenical Theology* (University of Graz/Austria).  
1999-2000: *University Lecturer, School of Theology* (University of Graz).  
1991-2000: *Research Fellow, Catholic School of Theology* (University of Graz).

### **VISITING PROFESSOR / VISITING SCHOLAR**

- 2018: *Visiting Scholar*, Centre Paul-Albert-Février – Textes et Documents de la Méditerranée antique et médiévale, Centre National de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), Université Aix-Marseille.
- 2012: *Visiting Scholar*, Center for the Study of Religions, Harvard University
- 2002-03: *Visiting Professor* School of Theology of the University of Salzburg/Austria.
- 2001: *Visiting Fulbright Scholar* Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, Collegeville (Minnesota/USA)
- 1998: *Visiting Scholar*, St. Ephrem Ecumenical Research Institute (Mahatma Gandhi University Kottayam/India).

### **AWARDS**

- 2015: Award for Excellence in Teaching 2015, University of Salzburg (best lecture course: "Christian Antiquity")
- 2009/10: Salzburg Research Fellowship
- 2005: WER-Prize for the Dialogue between Economics, Ethics and Religion awarded by the Federation of Austrian Industry.
- 2004: Josef Krainer Honorary Prize 2004 (Josef-Krainer-Würdigungspreis 2004)

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

- 2001: William J. Fulbright Scholarship.
- 1997 – 2000: APART-Scholarship (Austrian Program for Advanced Research and Technology) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences for highly qualified scholars and scientists.
- 1994: Scholarship from the Styrian Government (Austria) for language studies in Paris (Institute Catholique de Paris).
- 1989 - 1990: Scholarship from the Austrian Government and from Rotary International for studies in Geneva.
- 1989 – 1992: Scholarship holder of Pro Scientia, the interdisciplinary institution of the Austrian Bishops Conference to support gifted students.
- 1989: Award of the Catholic Theological School of the University of Graz for academic excellence.

### **FUNDRAISED RESEARCH PROGRAMMS (SELECTION)**

- Since 2013: East Syriac Christianity in China and Central Asia (Collaborator: Dr. Li Tang) – sum granted: 525.000 € (Mayr-Melnhof Foundation and private sponsors)
- Since 2006 - Pro Oriente Studies in the Syriac Tradition: Syriac Churches encountering Islam in Past and Present (director of an international team of scholars). – sum granted until present: 520.000 €
- 2014-2016: Jubiläumsfonds Austrian National Bank (ÖNB): Narratives of Diaspora: Oriental Christianity in Austria (Collaborator: Dr. Andreas Schmoller) – sum granted: 107.000 €
- 2008-2013: Austrian Science Fund (FWF) P20700: Trade, Mission and Inter-Religious Encounters: East Syriac Christianity along the Silk Road before 1500 in Tibet, Western China, Ceylon and Southeast Asia (Collaborator: Dr. Li Tang) – sum granted: 186.700 €
- 2007-2010: Austrian Science Fund (FWF) P20143-G02: „Der Gottesdienst des Schenute-Klosters anhand der koptischen (sahidischen) Typika. Edition. Kommentar. Untersuchung (collaborator: Dr. Diliانا Atanassova) – sum granted: 183.100 €
- 2005-2008: Austrian Science Fund (FWF) P17869-G10: „Nestorian' Christianity in China under the Mongol Empire (collaborator: Dr. Li Tang) – 155.030 €
- 2002-2003: Science Fund Styria: „Economy and Ecumenism: Global Market Society, EU-Enlargement and Christian Responsibility." - sum granted: 40.000 €
- 2001: Fulbright: „The Ecumenical Dialogue with the Oriental-Orthodox Churches."

- 1997-2000: Austrian Academy of Sciences, APART 445: „East Syriac Theology of the 7<sup>th</sup> century and the ecumenical relations of the Assyrian Church of the East.” – sum granted 136.100 €
- 1994-1996: Austrian Science Fund FWF P09627-HIS: „The ‘Nestorianism’ of the Assyrian Church of the East in the ecclesiastical political context of the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> centuries” (director: Prof. Erich Renhart).
- 1991-1993: Austrian Science Fund (FWF) P07835-HIS: „Comparative Christology and Ecclesiology of the ancient Oriental Churches and the Roman Catholic Church“ (director: Prof. Philipp Harnoncourt).

#### **EDITORSHIP/ADVISORY BOARD**

1. Pro Oriente Studies in Syriac Tradition. Piscataway/New Jersey: Gorgias Press (until now 3 vol.)
2. orientalia – patristica – oecumenica. Berlin/Münster: LIT-Verlag. Bisher 5 Bände (bisher/until now 15 vols.)

- Since 2020: Member of the International Scientific Board of “Handes Amsorya” (Journal of Armenology)
- Since 2011: Member of the Editorial Board of “Texts and Studies in Eastern Christianity” (Leiden/Tokyo/New York: Brill Publishers).
- 2007-2018: Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of “INTER. Romanian Review for Theological and Religious Studies”.
- Since 1997: Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of “The Harp. A Review of Syriac and Oriental Studies” (Kottayam/India).

#### **PRO ORIENTE**

- Since 2005: Member of the board of Pro Oriente (Vienna)  
Scholarly director of “Pro Oriente Studies in the Syriac Tradition”.  
Director of the board of the Salzburg Section of Pro Oriente
- Since 2000: Theological Consultant of the Foundation Pro Oriente.
- Since 1999: Member of the “Pro Oriente Commission for Dialogue within the Syriac Tradition”.
- 2002-2003: Member of the board of trustees of the Graz Section of Pro Oriente.
- 1998-2003: Member of the board of the Graz Section of Pro Oriente.
- Since 1991: Collaborator of the Foundation Pro Oriente (founded by Franz Kardinal König to promote the dialogue with Eastern Christianity).

#### **VATICAN**

- Since 2008: Consultant to the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (Vatican)
- Since 2003: Member of the Roman Catholic Delegation (Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity) in the official “International Joint Commission for Theological Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Oriental Orthodox Churches”.
- Since 2003: Collaborator of the Papal Congregation for the Oriental Churches (revision of “Oriente Cattolico”).

#### **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- Since 2010: European Academy of Sciences and Arts (class: World Religions), Member
- Since 2006: Society for the Study of the Christian East (GSCO), Member  
Working Group of Church Historians in the German Speaking World (AK Kirchengeschichte), Member
- Since 2004: North American Patristics Society (NAPS), Member
- Since 2002: Association of Austrian Church Historians (AKKÖ); Vice-Chair 2002-2015, since 2016 chair.