

Hans-Peter Grosshans

Short Bio

Hans-Peter Grosshans (born May 3, 1958) is a German theologian and philosopher of religion, with a special focus on questions and problems of hermeneutics, methodology and philosophy of science. After studying theology and philosophy at the universities of Tübingen (Germany) and Oxford (England) he did his doctorate at the Faculty of Protestant Theology at the University of Tübingen (Germany) with a thesis on the question of “theological realism” („Theologischer Realismus. Ein sprachphilosophischer Beitrag zu einer theologischen Sprachlehre”, Tübingen [Mohr Siebeck] 1996), in which he applied the philosophical discussion about realism and antirealism on ontological, epistemological and semantic problems of religious language. His second doctoral thesis („Habilitation”) was on the social form of Christian religion, the church, and the methodological and hermeneutical problems involved in its formation („Die Kirche - irdischer Raum der Wahrheit des Evangeliums”, Leipzig [Evangelische Verlagsanstalt] 2003).

From 1990 to 2002 he was teaching at the Faculty of Protestant Theology at the University of Tübingen. He then held teaching positions at the theological faculties of the universities of Hamburg (Germany), Munich (Germany) and Zürich (Switzerland) before in 2008 he took over his present position as professor (chair) for Systematic Theology and director of the Institute for Ecumenical Theology at the Faculty of Protestant Theology of the University of Münster, Germany. From 2016 – 2020 he was dean of his faculty. At the University of Münster Hans-Peter Grosshans is member of the Centre for the Theory of Science and of the interdisciplinary Cluster of Excellence on “Religion and Politics”.

Hans-Peter Grosshans is a permanent honorary guest professor at Zhejiang university in Hangzhou in China and has been lecturing at universities in various countries.

In 2020-21 he was president of the European Academy of Religion (EuARE) and organised the first conference of EuARE outside Bologna in Muenster (Germany).

Since many years he is in the Board of the *European Society for the Philosophy of Religion* and has been president and vice-president of this society.

He is the present president of the *German Society for Philosophy of Religion*.

He is main editor of the journal “Theologische Rundschau” (Mohr Siebeck, Tübingen) and editor (with Chr. Danz, J. Dierken and F. Nüssel) of the book series “Dogmatik in der Moderne” (Mohr Siebeck, Tübingen).

Hans-Peter Grosshans
(University of Münster, Germany)

Statement about my view on the European Academy of Religion in the next four years and on my role in the Executive Committee

I see the annual conferences of EuARE in four years being attended by more than 2.000 participants, coming from all fields of research and study on religion and from all parts of Europe. I intend to contribute, that EuARE is seen among all, who do research on religion, as the main and most attractive forum of intellectual exchange and discourse in Europe.

My specific role I see in contributing to have the annual conferences of EuARE at various locations in Europe, with my experience of organising the first time an EuARE conference outside Bologna. I think, that EuARE has to show presence all over Europe.

Also I see my role to connect EuARE more and better than now to various existing academic societies in theology and in religious studies all over Europe and to convince them to use EuARE also as their forum.

Prof. Dr. Hans-Peter Grosshans

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Birthday: 03/05/1958 in Heidenheim/Brenz, Germany

Research Focus

Global Protestantism in Past and Present

Philosophy of Religion

Ecumenical Theology

Christianity in Modern Times

Theology of Religions



SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION

10/1989 – 07/1986

Theology
Master degree (University of Tübingen)

09/1982 – 07/1983

Theology
Diploma (University of Oxford)

10/1989 – 09/1994

Theology
Dr. theol. (University of Tübingen)
Summa cum laude

10/1995 – 09/2002

Theology
Habilitation (University of Tübingen)

WORKING EXPERIENCE

- 10/2008 – today
University Professor (Chair and Director of Institute)
Faculty for Protestant Theology, University of Münster
- 10/2016 – 10/2020
Dean
Faculty for Protestant Theology, University of Münster
- 07/2007 – 09/2008
Study Secretary for Theology and the Church
The Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, Switzerland
- 04/2004 – 07/2007
Experienced Researcher
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
- 04/2004 – 09/2006
University Professor (substitute and guest professor)
Faculty for Theology, University of Zürich, Switzerland
- 10/2003 – 03/2004
University Professor (substitute)
Faculty for Protestant Theology, University of Munich (LMU)
- 04/2003 – 09/2003
Lecturer
Institute for Protestant Theology, University of Stuttgart-
Hohenheim
- 10/2002 – 03/2003
University Professor (substitute)
Faculty for Theology, University of Hamburg
- 10/2001 – 03/2002
University Professor (substitute)
Institut for Theology, University of Gießen
- 10/1995 – 09/2002
Wissenschaftlicher Assistant (Assistant Professor)
Institut for Hermeneutics, University of Tübingen
- 10/1989 – 09/1994
Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter (Junior Lecturer and Researcher)
Faculty for Theology, University of Tübingen

MEMBERSHIPS/AWARDS/ PROJECTS/EDITORSHIPS

- 2013 – today
Permanent Honorary Guest Professor
Institute for Christianity and Cross-Cultural Studies, Zhejiang
University, Hangzhou, PR China
- 2013 – 2015 Visting Professorship at the Philosophical Faculty of
the University of Sarajevo (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
- 2011 Visting Professorship at Sabah Theological Seminary, Kota
Kinabalu, Malaysia

2008 – today

Lecturer

Inter University Center Dubrovnik, Croatia

Editor of the book series “Dogmatik in der Moderne”

Mohr Siebeck, Tübingen

Editor of the Journal “Theologische Rundschau”

Mohr Siebeck, Tübingen

Co-editor of the Journal “Philosophy of Religion: Analytic Researches”, Institute of Philosophy, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow, Russia

Member of the Editorial board of the academic journal “Studia Religiosa: Russian Journal of Religion” Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow, Russia

Full member of the Académie Internationale de Philosophie des Sciences (AIPS), Brussels

President of the European Academy of Religion (2020-21) and member of the Board of the European Academy of Religion (since 2018)

Vice-President of the European Society for the Philosophy of Religion

Member of the Executive Board of RESILIENCE (ESFRI Research Infrastructure)

Speaker and initiator of the consortium TheoReS (Theology and Religious Studies) within the National Research Data Infrastructure (NFDI) of Germany

Member of the Executive Committee of the Inter University Center Dubrovnik, Croatia

President of the German Society for Philosophy of Religion

Member of Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft für Theologie

Ökumenischer Arbeitskreis evangelischer und katholischer Theologen

Ecumenical Advisory Board of the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe, Vienna

Ecumenical Dialogue Commission of the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD) and the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Konstantinopel (Istanbul)

Member of the Synode of the Evangelische Kirche von Westfalen

PUBLICATIONS

- Hans-Peter Großhans, *Theologischer Realismus. Ein sprachphilosophischer Beitrag zu einer theologischen Sprachlehre*, HUTh 34, Tübingen (Mohr-Siebeck) 1996.
- Luther, London (HarperCollins) 1997.
Indonesian Translation: Luther, Yogyakarta (Penerbit Kanisius) 2001.
- Die Kirche - irdischer Raum der Wahrheit des Evangeliums, Leipzig (Evangelische Verlagsanstalt) 2003.
- Rainer Eckel / Hans-Peter Großhans, *Gegner oder Geschwister? Glaube und Wissenschaft*, Leipzig (Evangelische Verlagsanstalt) 2015.
- Buddhist and Christian Attitudes to Religious Diversity, ed. by Hans-Peter Grosshans, Samuel Ngun Ling and Perry Schmidt-Leukel, Yangon (Ling's Family Publication) 2017.
- Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Myanmar. Contested Identities, ed. by Hans-Peter Grosshans, Madlen Krüger and Perry Schmidt-Leukel, London/New York (Bloomsbury) 2022.
- Luther on Faith and Reason. The Light of Reason at the Twilight of the World, in: *The Global Luther. A Theologian for Modern Times*, ed. by Chr. Helmer, Minneapolis (Fortress Press) 2009, 173 - 185.
- The Freedom of a Christian According to Evangelical Lutheran Theology, in: *Freedom and Responsibility. Christian and Muslim Explorations*, ed. by Simone Sinn and Martin L. Sinaga, Minneapolis 2010, 61 - 80.
- Vere tu es Deus absconditus. The Contemplation of Religious Mysteries in the Philosophy of Religion, in: *The Contemplative Spirit. D.Z. Phillips on Religion and the Limits of Philosophy*, ed. by I. U. Dalferth and H. von Sass, Tübingen 2010, 203 - 218.
- Paul's Anthropology and Its Contribution to the Formation of Humanity in the Perspective of Reformation Theology, in: *The Quest for a Common Humanity. Human Dignity and Otherness in the Religious Traditions of the Mediterranean*, ed. by K. Berthelot and M. Morgenstern, Leiden/Boston (Brill) 2011, 83 – 99.
- Lutheran Hermeneutics: An Outline, in: "You have the Words of Eternal Life" - Transformative Readings of the Gospel of John from a Lutheran Perspective, ed. by K. Mtata, Minneapolis 2012, 23 - 46.
- Internal Realism and the Reality of God, in: *European Journal for Philosophy of Religion*, Vol. 6, 2014, 61 - 77.
- Contingency - Religion - God. A paradigmatic reflection on the relation of science, metaphysics and religion, in: *Science, Metaphysics, Religion*, ed. by Evandro Agazzi, Milano (FrancoAngeli) 2014, 143 - 153.
- The Liberating Word of God. Reflections on the Lutheran Understanding of Holy Scripture, in: *Liberated by God's Grace*, ed. by Anne Burghardt, Leipzig (EVA) 2015, 41 - 56.

Europa und die Theologie - der besondere europäische Umgang mit Religion, in: *Europa? Zur Kulturgeschichte einer Idee*, hg. von Tomislav Zelić, Zaneta Sambunjak und Anita Pavić Pintarić, Würzburg (Königshausen & Neumann) 2015, 121 - 136.

Core Values. An European Perspective, in: *International Journal of Sino-Western Studies*, 2015, Vol 9, 9 - 20.

Vom Fortschrittsoptimismus zur Kulturkritik. Zur Verarbeitung des Ersten Weltkriegs im deutschsprachigen Protestantismus, in: "The Long Shots of Sarajevo" 1914. Ereignis - Narrativ - Gedächtnis, hg. von Vahidin Preljević und Clemens Ruther, Tübingen (Narr Francke Attempto) 2016, 241 - 252.

Reason and Philosophy in Martin Luther's Thought, In: *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Martin Luther*, edited by Derek Nelson and Paul Hinlicky, [insert page numbers]. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.

Schuld und Vergebung in Martin Luthers Auslegung der Bergpredigt, in: *Schuld und Vergebung*, hg. von Hans-Peter Grosshans, Herman J. Selderhuis, Alexander Dölecke und Matthias Schleiff, Tübingen (Mohr Siebeck) 2017, 109 - 129.

Russian translation in: *Philosophy of Religion. Analytic Researches*, 2019, vol. 3, no. 2, 30-49.

Das Bild (Christi) in evangelischer Perspektive - Systematisch-theologische Überlegungen, in: *Das Bild Christi in der orthodoxen und der evangelischen Frömmigkeit*, hg. von Petra Bosse-Huber und Martin Illert, Beihefte zur Ökumenischen Rundschau Nr. 113, Leipzig (EVA) 2017, 137 - 152.

Religionsphilosophie in der Moderne - in christlich-evangelischer Perspektive, in: *falsafa. Jahrbuch für islamische Religionsphilosophie*, Bd. 1: Religion und Philosophie, hg. von Ahmad Milad Karimi, Freiburg/München (Verlag Karl Alber) 2018, 104 - 121.

The Divine Mystery Becoming Visible in Human Communities, in: *In-Visibility. Reflections upon Visibility and Transcendence in Theology, Philosophy and the Arts*, ed. by Anna Vind, Iben Damgaard, Kirsten Busch Nielsen and Sven Rune Havsteen, Göttingen (Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht) 2020, 445 - 458.

Ethnic and Religious Diversity, in: *Ethnic and Religious Diversity in Myanmar. Contested Identities*, ed. by Perry Schmidt-Leukel, Hans-Peter Grosshans und Madlen Krüger, London u.a. (Bloomsbury Academic) 2022, 257 - 271.

Leben in der Hoffnung in Zeiten einer Pandemie und anderer Katastrophen. Über Gott und menschliche Freiheit, in: *Theologische Rundschau (ThR)* 86, 2021, 382 - 399.

For many more publications see: <https://www.uni-muenster.de/EvTheol/en/personen/grosshans.shtml>