The Narrative of Islamic violence in History.
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Reframing the European crisis: Orientalism and the eschatology of Islamic terror

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This talk interrogates the conceptual link between ‘orientation’ and ‘Orientalisation’ at the heart of Europe’s normative ideal. Our hypothesis is that the current economic and cultural crisis of Europe signals a much wider crisis occurring at the level of the discursive self-representation of the West. The crisis of these two essential referents of our times, Europe and the West, is assumed in this talk as the background against which new orientalist and Islamophobic trends in contemporary Europe can be examined. A psychoanalytic geography of this critical scenario also offers a new angle from which to consider the eschatology of Islamic terror within contemporary global jihadism and interpret recent attacks in Europe.