



S. RAJARATNAM
SCHOOL OF
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

Dialogue, Social Cohesion, and Governance

Counter Polarisation and Populism

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Introductory Issues

- *My work*
 - Dialogue, social cohesion, radicalisation, identity; and...
- *What do we mean by dialogue?*
 - Ethnic, cultural, religious, non-religious – secular spaces
- *Developing dialogue*
 - Not one-off; integration: legal, economic, cultural; context
- *Who is at the dialogue table?*
 - “Representative bodies”; Preaching to the choir
- *Who isn't at the table?*
 - Women, minorities, intra-religious, conservatives
- *Instrumentalisation of Dialogue*
 - Purposes and resistance – grassroots vs top-down
- *Does it Work?*
 - Quantifying success? Learning: successes and failures

Some Resources and Literature

- Beaman, Lori G. (ed.), 2012, *Reasonable Accommodation: Managing Religious Diversity*, Vancouver: The University of British Columbia Press.
- Bouma, Gary, Ling R., and Halafoff, Anna, 2010, 'The Impact of Religious Diversity and Revitalization on Inter-religious Education for Citizenship and Human Rights', in Engbretson, K. De souza, M., Durka, G. and Gearon, L. (eds), *International Handbook of Inter-religious Education*, NY: Springer, pp. 1053-1070.
- Halafoff, Anna, 2013, 'Riots, Mass Casualties, and Religious Hatred: Countering Anticosmopolitan Terror through Intercultural and Interreligious Understanding,' in Paul Hedges, ed., *Controversies in Contemporary Religion*, vol. 2, Santa Barbara, CA: Praeger, pp. 293-312.
- Hedges, Paul, 2018, 'Can Interreligious Dialogue Provide a New Space for Deliberative Democracy in the Public Sphere?: Philosophical Perspectives from the Examples of the UK and Singapore', *Interreligious Studies and Intercultural Theology* 2.1, 1-20.
- Holden, Andrew, 2009, *Religious Cohesion in Times of Conflict*, London: Continuum.
- Mediterranean City-to-City Migration Project, Paper 20: "Social Cohesion and Intercultural and Interreligious Dialogue," https://www.uclg-cisd.org/sites/default/files/20_social_cohesion_and_dialogue_lisboa_june2016.pdf.
- Schlack, Annemarie, *The role of religion in peacebuilding and conflict transformation: The example of interfaith organisations in the UK*, Saarbrücken: Verlag Dr. Müller, pp. 45-63.
- UNDP, "Social Cohesion Framework," https://www.sfcg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/SC2_Framework-copy.pdf.