



Niko Alm

# DENOMINATION UNDECLARED

How religion is used to shape politics

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## How religion exploits politics

Is our political system truly free from religious influences? The Enlightenment aimed to secularise politics, but the concordats of the early 20th century laid the foundation for a pairing of religion and state. Religion remains a defining political force, both at national as well as international level. From religiously motivated terrorism through to the crucifix in the classroom, the clash between religion and secular society creates friction within political debate. The discussions over burka bans or circumcision point to the demarcation lines in society and are thereby often also indicators for political self-positioning. Niko Alm analyses the exploitation of politics through religion and makes an impassioned plea for secularity.

## NIKO ALM

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was born in 1975 and studied philosophy, journalism and communication sciences (University of Vienna). In 2001 he founded the creative agency Super-Fi and brought international media brand VICE to Austria in 2006. He sold his company in 2013 and increased his focus on politics, becoming a member of parliament for NEOS (New Austria and Liberal Forum Party). He left parliament in 2017 to help establish the investigative journalistic platform Addendum (addendum.org). Most recently published: "Ohne Bekenntnis" (Denomination Undeclared, 2019).