



University
of Glasgow

The Paristamen Charity
Standing beside charities with small grants to make a big difference

News Release

7 September 2023

FROM: University of Glasgow – School of Critical Studies / Theology & Religious Studies
and the Paristamen Charity

Launch of the “Faith in Scotland’s Constitutional Future” project – Conference in Glasgow on 7 October 2023

The *Faith in Scotland’s Constitutional Future* project will be launched with a one-day conference in Partick Trinity Church, 20 Lawrence Street, Glasgow on Saturday 7th October 2023. Tickets (standard rate £6, concessionary rate £3, including lunch) are available through Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/faith-in-scotlands-constitutional-future-conference-tickets-713253710047?aff=oddtcreator>

This project – which is ecumenical, non-partisan and neutral on the constitutional question – aims to engage with churches across Scotland to encourage Christians to reflect on key questions about Scotland’s constitutional future, whether as an independent country or remaining within the UK. The project is organised by the School of Critical Studies / Theology & Religious Studies at the University of Glasgow.

During the morning session of the conference on 7th October, four speakers will give presentations of 20 minutes each, two from a pro-Union and two from a pro-Independence perspective. The speakers are:

- The Reverend Dr Maggie McTernan
- Murdo Fraser MSP
- Stephen Noon
- The Reverend Alan F Miller

The Conference Chair will be Professor Heather Walton, Professor of Theology and Creative Practice at the University of Glasgow. Professor Walton said:

“The direction of Scotland’s constitutional future will affect every aspect of our common life. I am excited that this conference offers the opportunity for Christians to reflect together in an informed and faith-full way on the challenges and choices ahead.”

Following the conference on 7th October, there will be 12 regional consultations across the length and breadth of Scotland. Participants will be invited to respond to presentations on how to relate faith to constitutional questions and take part in facilitated discussions based on Jesuit Discernment in Common principles.

Interested persons of all faiths and none are welcome to take attend the conference, which will start at 10:00 am on Saturday 7th October. For catering purposes, please purchase tickets in advance. Venue: Partick Trinity Church, 20 Lawrence Street, Glasgow, G11 5HG. Nearest Glasgow Subway station: Kelvinhall. More information, including tickets for the

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conference on 7th October, is available at:
www.faithinscotlandsconstitutionalfuture.wordpress.com

Notes to Editors

For more information, please contact Áine Allardyce, University of Glasgow Communications Team on 07976 201938 or email aine.allardyce@glasgow.ac.uk

The project's Researcher is the Rev Matthew Ross, who can be contacted by E-Mail: Matthew.Ross@glasgow.ac.uk

This project is supported by [The Paristamen Charity](#), a small grant-making charity based in East Lothian, Scotland. Founded in 1985, in recent years it has awarded a wide range of grants mainly to smaller Scottish charities, and one larger "Blue Sky" grant. It is governed by four trustees who have a range of Christian affiliations and varying political views.

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