

Religion: factor of stress or driving force of peace?

On the increasing importance of interreligious competence

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Religions in Europe – Distorted perceptions, pluralism and their challenges



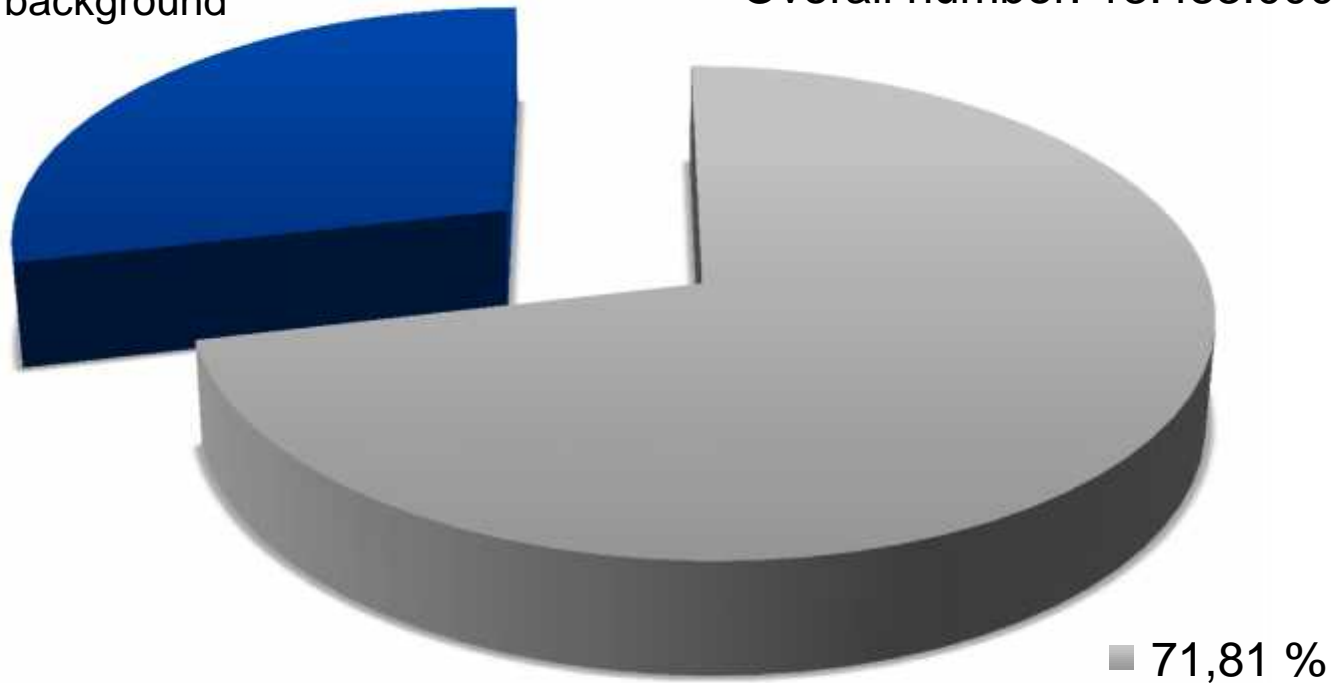
An example for the plurality of religion: German classrooms, 2014



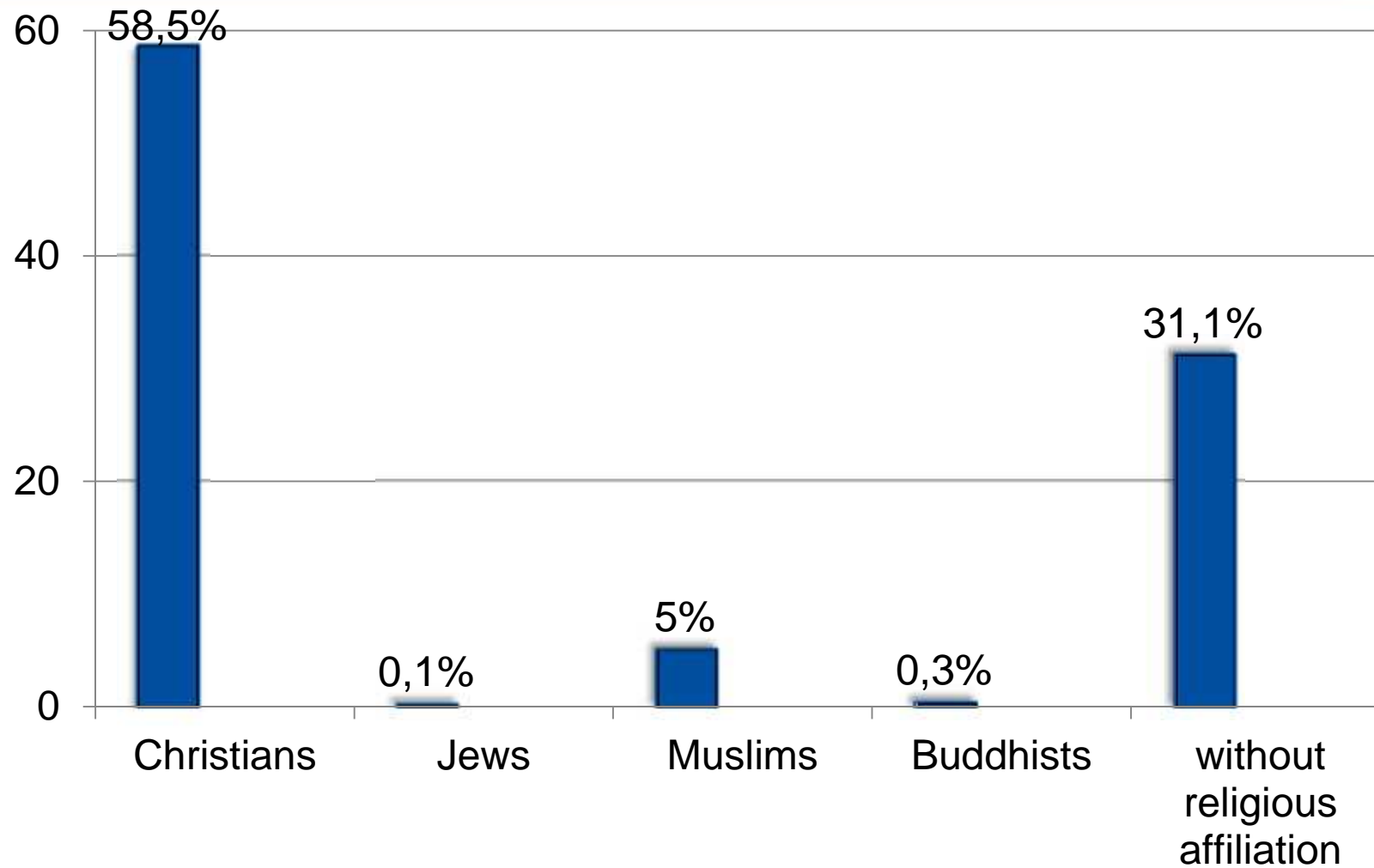
Percentage of students with migration background

■ 28,19 %, migration background

Overall number: 13.483.000 students



Religious affiliation in Germany



Quelle: REMID 2015 (Referential year of datas: 2013)

Challenges resulting from the religious context



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1. Against the tendency of privatization of religion – towards a public, rational discourse of religion
2. Against displacing religion from educational institutions – towards an interreligious education

Arguments for the public discourse of religion



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- Jürgen Habermas: Plea for translating the potential of rationality and meaning in the religions into society.
- These translations need to be performed by religions as well as by societies (!) in order to preserve a „sense of humanity“ within functioning democracies
- Democracies are in charge to create a place for these translations also in educational institutions.

Concept of Education by PISA (Jürgen Baumert)



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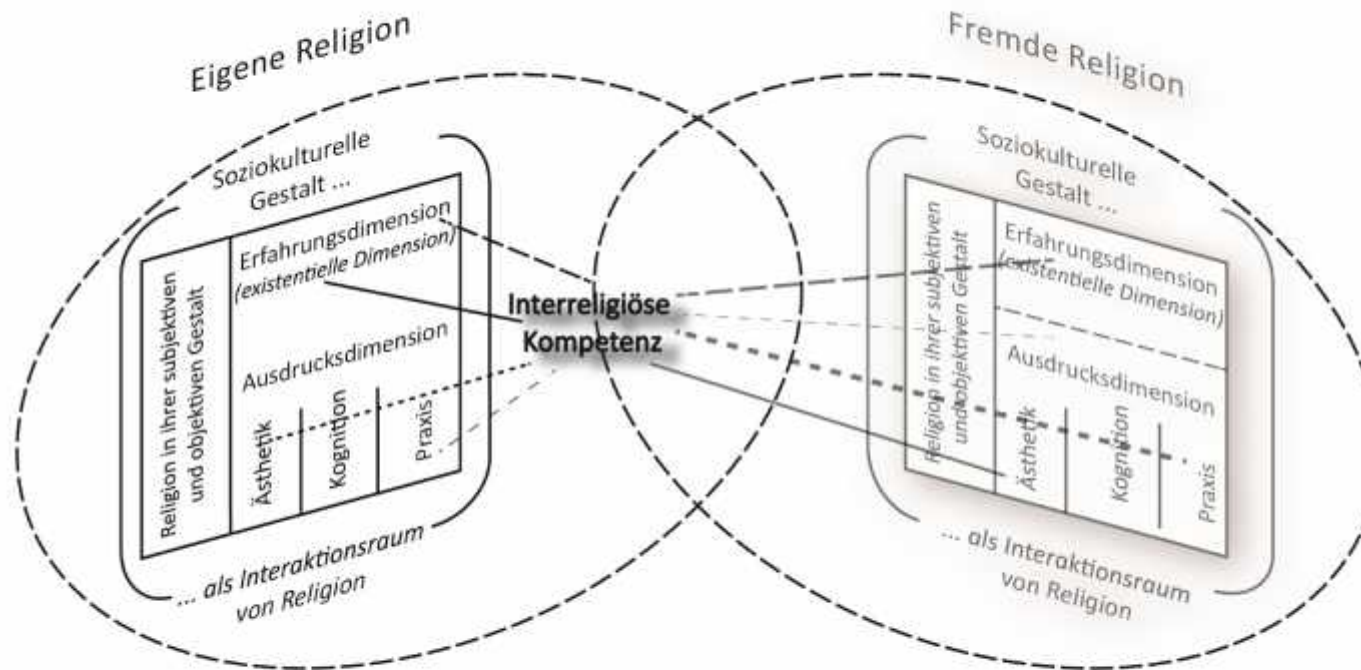
- Education as a multi-dimensional phenomenon
- Philosophy and religion as genuine modes to discover reality

Schools needs to provide opportunities for approaching reality from a religious perspective

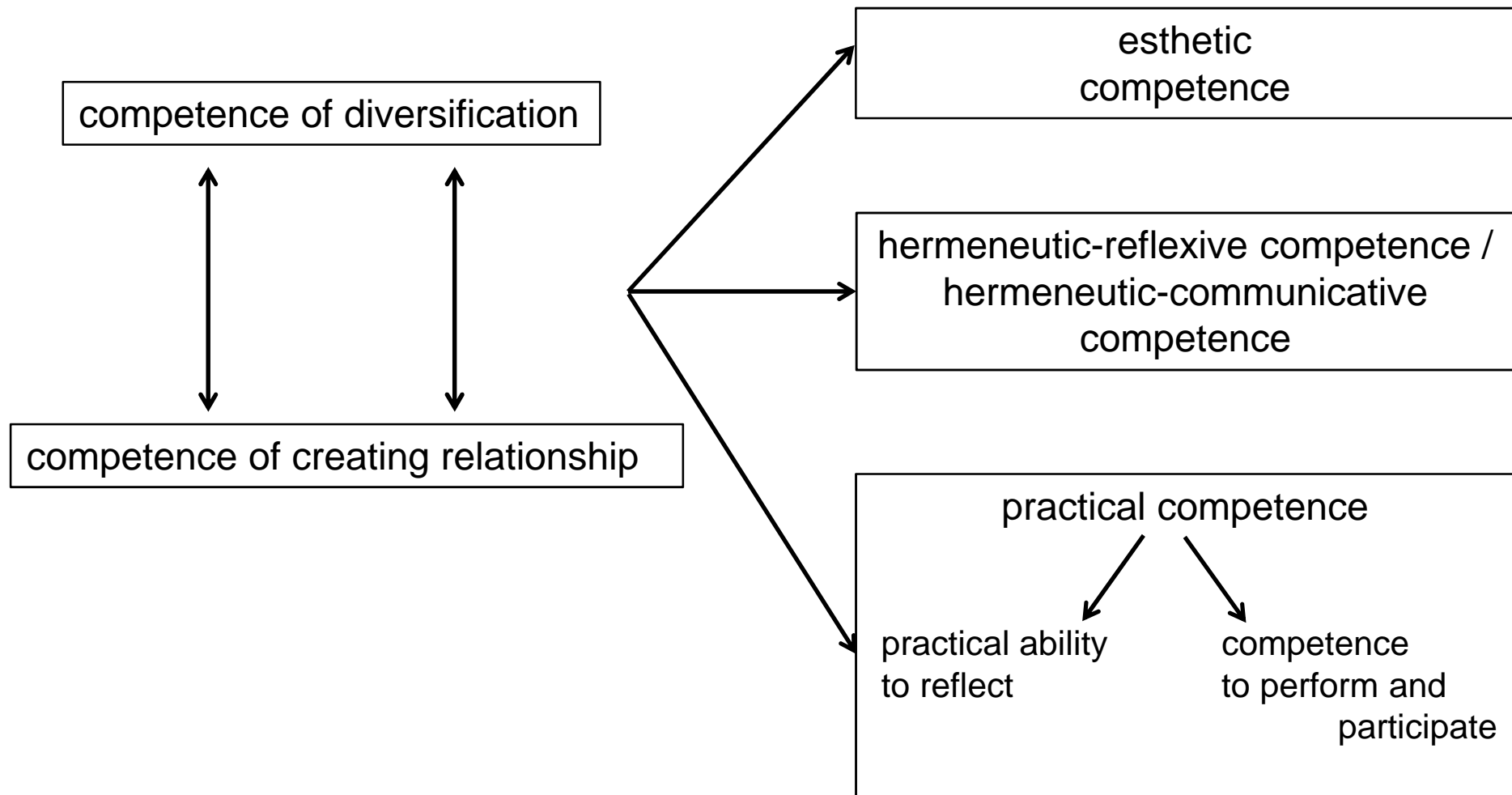
On the growing importance of interreligious competence



Interreligiöse Kompetenz als Diversifikations- und Relationskompetenz



Interreligious competence



On the urgency of intercultural and interreligious education



- What is the contribution of democracies to promote the power of religions in supporting peace?
- What is the contribution of religions to empower people of different cultures and nations to live together in peace?

to realize that religion is an identity marker esp. of people with migration background and of refugees

to realize that religion is not a separating, but a distinguishing identity marker

Night of talents ...



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Thank you very much!



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