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## Liberal Neutrality and Public Holidays in the Western Balkans

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The liberal state does not take a position on the validity of a person's belief about what constitutes the good life – this is the liberal commitment to tolerance and the neutrality of the state. Neutrality is understood as "passive impartiality: government and its institutions – the basic structures – go along in a strictly procedural way and are separated from ideas about the good life, as proclaimed and practiced by various societal subcultures in society." Can the state be neutral in regard to culture? This paper focuses on the question of what kind of approach should the liberal state take regarding public holidays in multicultural societies. Dealing with issues related to religion we will be seeking answers to questions such as: can officials refuse to honour all religious holidays? Put ab-