Orthodox Canonical Tradition and Contemporary Challenges

ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-2014

PROGRAM AND PARALLEL EVENTS

VOLOS ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

It goes beyond any doubt that the Canons, along with the Bible and doctrinal and synodical definitions, constitute a central pillar in the life and tradition of the Church, but without predetermining it. One can say, without exaggeration that these three realities constitute the foundation upon which the Church marched through the centuries. The canons reflect and record the living experience of the ecclesial body, while in many cases they orientate it in overcoming or resolving issues which arise in its course through history toward the eschata. Orthodox theology has often been described as traditional, due to its commitment to the patristic and canonical tradition. This tradition is not an external factor which simply separates it from the diverse traditions of this world, but it is primarily a form of identification, the vehicle by which it moves within the linear time of history and which attempts to address the challenges of each era, seeking to offer salvation in the troubled man. However in this same era of rapid change - i.e. late modernity, globalization and multiculturalism - Orthodoxy is today confronted with radically new anthropological and social challenges that were hitherto unknown and completely different from what it has experienced in its past, challenges that bring into doubt and undermine any confidence and self-sufficiency (as also happens with all traditional structures and forms of organization of life).

Faced with this new reality, the Orthodox theology, instead of coming into a fruitful dialogue with the world and increasingly secularized society, often chooses to fold upon itself, to adhere to forms and expressions of the past, which although do not express so much the apostolic kerygma and the patristic faith, but rather the spirit and habits of a certain, usually pre-modern era, however they are used as the ultimate criterion of its soteriological dialogue with the present and the future world.

Like any patristic text, each rule is derived from a particular era and reflects, apart from the temporal salvific experience of the Church, the cross-sectional characteristics of the place and time of its issue, thus forming a plethora of canonical canons in need of interpretation. To the extent that this is true, there is a need for the texts of the tradition (Fathers and canons) to form part of an interpretive process that clarifies that which belongs to the core of doctrinal truth, in other words that which explains and faithfully expresses the apostolic kerygma, and that which simply perpetuates or transfers in the present, characteristics of the wider cultural reality, which constitutes the external form - not always the best or final – of the truth, and not the truth itself. The central question to be posed is whether it is inherently possible for Orthodox theology as far as it concerns its canonical tradition, to function not only as a traditional theology, staying steadfastly true to the letter of an alleged 'tradition', but surpassing also as a contextual one, the coordinates of a pre-modernist worldview, which is irrevocably past for the time of the Church. In this case, when the Orthodox Church reflects honestly and without preconceptions on the various aspects of its tradition, highlighting all the elements that witness primarily to the mystery of Christ and interpret the magnalia Dei, in the continuing until today history of salvation, thus overcoming all the cultural loans that no longer serve in the desired dialogue with the post-modern man, it is only then that Orthodoxy's kerygma will be received again by the people, who often expect consolation, hope and salvation, and not an aphoristic and denouncing reason that distorts the deeper spirit of the canons. The question, therefore, is to what point, in the prestige that surrounds them, these canons keep their existential dynamics, to meet the demands of the increasingly changing world.

Keeping in mind this problematic reality we ought to reflect on this and a series of other related issues, added to the core of this central question, which related to the theological and soteriological relevance of the canons for the Church life.

Issues like: what is the relationship between biblical spirit and canons, doctrine and canons, morals and canons, personal freedom and canons, secular state and canons? What role canons play in the constitution of the ecclesial body or in the pastoral practice of the Church? Further, what's the point of the canons on the witness of Orthodoxy in contemporary world, in its participation in the ecumenical movement and in general in the modern multi-faceted challenges? Finally, to what extent the canons testify through time for the Eucharistic and eschatological ethos of the Church or, on the contrary, reinforce the domination of the legal spirit in the life and structures of the Church?

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies will address these issues and the above question in a series of events that will culminate in an international conference in Volos, from 8-11 May, 2014 on the topic "The Canons of the Church and Modern challenges". In parallel, The Volos Academy will also organize roundtable discussions, public events, new book presentations and seminars on topics such as "The Revelation of the Cross: The Gospel of John and the origins of Christian theology", "Dying to live: The mystery of Christ and the foundations of Christian anthropology", the participation of the Orthodox Church in the Ecumenical Movement, the dialogue between Theology and Psychology etc.

EVENTS-LECTURES-BOOK PRESENTATIONS

1) Presentation of the volume:
Orthodox Handbook on Ecumenism:
Resources for Theological Education
"That They All May Be One" (John17,21)
Editors: Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Thomas FitzGerald,
Cyril Hovorun, Aikaterini Pekridou, Nikolaos Asproulis,
Dietrich Werner, and Guy Liagre,
Volos / Geneva / Oxford Volos Academy Publications/WCC Publications/Regnum Books International, 2014

Geneva, Monday, February 10, 2014
Reading Room, Ecumenical Center

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Nikolaos Asproulis, MTh, Research Associate of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Rev. Dr. Dietrich Werner, (ETE/WCC), Senior Advisor Theology, Ecumenical Education and Research, Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service

Opening and Welcome by the General Secretary of WCC
Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit

2) Dying to Live:
"The Mystery of Christ and the foundations of Christian anthropology"
(Lectures in Volos and Athens)

1st Lecture: Volos, Wednesday, February, 19, 2014
Thessalia Conference Center (Melissiatika),

2nd Lecture: Athens, Saturday, February 21, 2014
"The Kostis Palamas Building" (Acadmias and Sina)

SPEAKER:

Rev. Dr. John Behr, Dean and Professor of Patristics of St. Vladimir's Seminary (Crestwood, NY)

Fr. John Behr's lectures in Athens and Volos will be given in English (with Greek translation available); admission is free open to the public

These lectures are sponsored by
the Virginia H. Farah Foundation,
an Orthodox philanthropic institution

3) Series of Dialogues between Theology and Psychology Two meetings featuring a dialogue between theology and psychology

1st Meeting: "Tied by the need of control"
Saturday, March 29, 2014, Volos Municipal Building, 6:30 p.m.

SPEAKERS:

Rev. Barnabas Yangou, Director of Youth Ministry, Metropolis of Thessaloniki

Dr. Demetrios Karagianis, Child Psychiatrist, Psychotherapist

2nd Meeting "Tied by the torque in sorrow"
Saturday, April 5, 2014, Volos Municipal Building, 6:30 p.m.

SPEAKERS:

Rev. Haralambos Papadopoulos (Fr. Lyvios), Priest, Church of Crete

Stavros Gougouskidis Clinical Psychologist (M. Sc.), Systemic Psychotherapist

The series of dialogues between theology and psychology has been organized in collaboration with the mental health organization "Health Progress" and the Youth Association of the Metropolis of Demetrias

Admission is free and open to the public

Orthodox Canonical Tradition and Contemporary Challenges
Volos 8th-11th of May 2014

INVITED SPEAKERS:

Rev. Dr. Grigorios Papathomas, Professor of Canon Law, Faculty of Theology, Athens University and St. Sergius Orthodox Theological Institute, President of the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology, Member of the Board of Directors of Volos Academy for Theological Studies,

Historical Context of Canons' Genesis and Theology of the Holy Canons

Dr. Spyridon Troianos, ***Professor Emeritus, Law School of Athens University,***

The Principle of "Economy" in Orthodox Tradition Now and Then

Dr. Christos Karakolis, Associate Professor, Faculty of Theology, Athens University, Member of the Board of Directors of Volos Academy for Theological Studies,

Bible and Holy Canons

Rev. Dr. Demetrios Bathrellos, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, Visiting Professor at the Institute of Orthodox Christian Studies, Member of the Board of Directors, Volos Academy for Theological Studies,

Dogmatic Theology and Holy Canons

CONFERENCES

Dr. Stavros Yangazoglou, Advisor at the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Director of the Journal "Theologia", Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University,

Eucharistic Ecclesiology and Canonical Tradition

Dr. Theodoros Yangou, President at the Faculty of Pastoral and Social Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

Authentic and Distorted within the Orthodox Canonical Tradition

David Heith-Stade, PhD, University of Lund, Sweden,

Is there a "Consensus Canonum"?

Rev. Dr. Adamantios Avgoustidis, Associate Professor, Faculty of Theology, Athens University,

The Pastoral Nature of the Holy Canons

Dr. Michel Stavrou, Professor at St. Sergius Orthodox Theological Institute, Paris,

Canons and Baptism of the Heterodox

Rev. Dr. Alexander Rentel, Assistant Professor of Canon Law, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, New York, U.S.A.,

Canonicity and Ecclesiality of non-Orthodox Churches

Dr. Vlassios Feidas, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Theology, Athens University, Dean of the Institute of Postgraduate Studies in Orthodox Theology, Orthodox Center of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Chambésy, Geneva,

Common Prayer and Ecumenical Dialogue According to the Holy Canons

Dr. Georgios Gkavardinas, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

Canons and Fasting

Rev. Dr. Avgoustinos Bairaktaris, Assistant Professor, University Ecclesiastical Academy of Crete, Member of the Academic Team of Volos Academy for Theological Studies,

Canons and Environment

Dr. Nikolaos Maggioros, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

Questions of Religious Freedom and Diversity within the Church Canons

Dora Dimanopoulou-Cohen, Researcher in the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris,

The Place of the Jews within the Canons of the Church

Dr. Rastko Jovic, Pedagogical and Catechetical Institute, Belgrade, Serbia,

Ecclesiastical and Canonical Consequences of the Celebration of Mixed and Disparate Marriages

Dr. Radu Preda, Associate Professor of the University of Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Director of the Romanian Institute of Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional, Inter-Religious Studies (INTER, Cluj-Napoca),

Canonical Tradition and Legalistic Spirit: From the Ethos of Freedom to the Morality of Fear and the Law

Dr. Konstantinos Kornarakis, Associate Professor, Faculty of Theology, Athens University,

Canons and Ethics

Teva Regule, MTh, Editor in Chief of the Orthodox Journal St. Nina Quarterly, Teaching at Boston College, Boston, USA,

Canons of the Church and Women: A Tough Relationship

Sister Dr. Vassa Larin, Institute of Historic Theology, Vienna University, Austria,

The Orthodox Canons in Theory and Practice

Rev. Dr. Patriciu Vlaicu, Associate Professor of University of Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Member of the Official Delegation of the Patriarchate of Romania in the European Institutions

A Contemporary Perspective on the Application of Holy Canons on Issues Concerning Autocephaly and "Diaspora"

Dr. Demetrios Nikolakakis, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Pastoral and Social Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki,

Troubles from the Ethno-racial Administration of the Orthodox "Diaspora"

H. E. Metropolitan of Messinia Chrysostomos Savvatos, President,

Faculty of Theology, Athens University,

Ecclesiological Outlook of the Holy Canons

CONFERENCES

Dr. Athanasios N. Papathanasiou, Editor in Chief of the Journal "Synaxis", Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University,

Resistance, Social Uprising, Revolution: Questions to the Canonical Tradition

Dr. Ioannis Konidaris, Professor, Law School, Athens University,

Church Canons and State Law

Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University,

State and Church within the Orthodox World

Dr. Panos Nikolopoulos, Lecturer, Law School, Athens University,

Canonical Tradition on Marriage and Modern Forms of Free-Union

For more information and registration, contact the Secretariat of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Tel.. +30 24210-93553, 93573, 93572

www.acadimia.org, e-mail: info@acadimia.org

The Apocalypse of the Cross: The Gospel of John and the Beginning of Christian theology

Athens, Saturday, February, 22, 2014
Center of Arcadia Studies
(Embedokleous str. 26, Pagrati)

Seminar

FEATURED SPEAKER: ***Rev. Dr. John Behr,*** Dean and Professor of Patristics of St. Vladimir's Seminary (Crestwood, NY)

ROUNDTABLE PARTICIPANTS:

Rev. Dr. Demetrios Bathrellos, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, Visiting Professor at the Institute of Orthodox Christian Studies, Member of the Board of Directors of Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Dr. Alexis Torrance, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Department of Pastoral and Social Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and Visiting Scholar at the Department of Theology, University of Notre Dame.

Registration is required for this seminar; please contact the Secretariat of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

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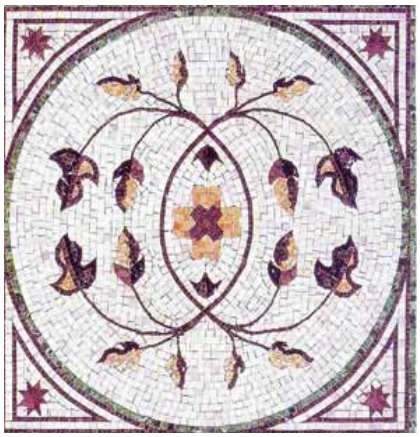


VOLOS ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies functions as an open forum of thought and dialogue between the Orthodox Church and the broader scholarly community of intellectuals worldwide. In its effort to foster interdisciplinary and inter-religious understanding, the Academy has been organizing a series of studies, international seminars, conferences, roundtables and publications. In order to meet this objective, the Academy for Theological Studies has collaborated with numerous other institutions, jointly addressing problems and challenges of our time, in a spirit of respect for each other's differences. Thus, the Academy has collaborated with institutions such as the Boston Theological Institute, the French Institute in Athens, Drury University (USA), the School of Theology at the University of Thessaloniki, the Department of Orthodox Theology at the University of Munich, the Faculty of Theology at Heidelberg University, the Bossey Ecumenical Institute and the World Council of Churches, the Society of Oriental Liturgy (SOL), the Orthodox Theological Faculty at the University Babes-Bolyai (Cluj-Napoca, Romania) and the University's Center on Bioethics, the Department of History-Archeology

and Social Anthropology at the University of Thessaly, the Chair of Orthodox Theology at the University of Münster (Germany), the Center for Orthodox Studies at Fordham University (New York), the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER, Cluj-Napoca), Saint Sergius Theological Institute (Paris), the Journal and the Ecumenical Center Istina, French Orthodox Journal Contacts, the Christian Cultural Center of Belgrade (Serbia), St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute (Moscow, Russia), the Orthodox Academy of Valamo (Finland), the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels), the Athens Pedagogical Institute, the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy, the Association of Orthodox Women in Europe, the Middle East Council of Churches (MECC), the Ecumenical Youth Council of Europe (EYCE), the World Student Christian Federation (WSCF), the Forum of European Muslim Youth Student Organizations (FEMYSO), the Association of Religious Teachers of Imathia (Greece), the Academic Association for Adult Education, the "Second Chance" Schools of Volos and Larissa, the Alternative School of the Therapeutic Community "Exodus," the Municipal Center of History in Volos, the Youth Association of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, the School of Iconography Dia Heiros of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias in Volos, the French website on Orthodox news www.orthodoxie.com, and a number of journals, academic periodicals and publication houses (Nea Hestia, Synaxis, Analogion, Leimonarion, Kastaniotis, Indiktos, Hestia, Harmos, etc). As a result of this scholarly activity, the Metropolis of Demetrias and the city of Volos have become an international meeting place for encounter and dialogue.

Among the topics addressed by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in previous academic years were: "Orthodoxy in the 21st century," "Church and Culture," "Church and Eschatology," "Orthodox Christianity and Modernity," "Ecclesiology and Nationalism in the Postmodern Era," "Islam and Fundamentalism—Orthodox Christianity and Globalization," "Christian Presence and Witness in Palestine and Middle East Today: Theological and Political Challenges," "Orthodox Christianity and Otherness," "Gender and Religion—The Place of Women in the Church," "En Route to 'In the Likeness': Elisabeth Behr-Sigel's Theological and Anthropological Contributions to the Church," "Women and Religion: The Problem of Violence and Fundamentalism," "Theology and Literature," "Theology and Modern Church Architecture," "The New Synaxarion: The Lives of the Saints of the Orthodox Church," "Toward an Ecumenical Declaration of Just Peace and Reconciliation: An Orthodox Contribution," "Biblical Liberation Theology, Patristic Theology, and the Ambivalence of Modernity in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective,"

"Orthodox Christianity and Education: Religious Instruction as a Lesson in Identity andCulture," "Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism," "Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life," "Turmoil in Post-war Theology: the "Theology of the '60s," "Theo logical Portraits I: Panayiotis Trembelas: Between Tradition and Renewal, BetweenAcademia and Mission," "Church and State," "Orthodox Christianity and Islam: Is lam in Europe," "Orthodox Christianity, Tradition, and History," "Wittgenstein and Apophatic Theology," "Forgiveness, Reconciliation, and Peace," "Eucharist, Church,and the World" "The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, and Future," "Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theol ogy: Can Orthodox Theology Be Contextual?", "The Place of Religion in the Public Sphere," "Issues of Renewal and Reform in Orthodoxy," "Refugees, Immigrants, and-20th centuries)," "The Question of Language in Worship," "Why is the Orthodox the Doctrine of Theosis So Intriguing to Western Christians?", "The Reception ofPalamism in the West Today," "The Teaching of Ecumenical Theology in the Ortho dox World," "Metropolitan John Zizioulas of Pergamon: Person, Eucharist, and theKingdom of God in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective," and more.

The scholarly fruits of these conferences have been published under the following titles: *Church and Eschatology, (Athens: Kastaniotis Publications), 2003; Islam and Fundamentalism—Orthodox Christianity and Globalization, (Athens: Indiktos Publications) 2004; Gender and Religion. The Role of Women in the Church, (Athens: Indiktos Publications) 2004; Religion and Literature (Parts I, II, and III) in the literary journal Nea Hestia (March 2004, March 2005, and September 2009, respectively); Orthodox Theology in the 21st century, by Metropolitan of Diokleia Kallistos Ware, Senior Lecturer at Oxford University, (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2005; Prolegomena on Orthodox Christianity and Modernity, by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2007, also translated and published in Romanian by EIKON Publications; Orthodox Christianity and Modernity (collected works), (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2007; Turmoil in Post-war Theology: the Theology of the 60's (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2009; 'And on earth peace'… A Vision and A Demand for Societies and Churches Today. An Orthodox Contribution (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2010; Church and Culture in Contemporary Greek Theology (published in French in Istina, Issue 1, January-March 2010), The Christians in the Middle East (in English, in the March 2012 issue of the journal The Ecumenical Review), Biblical Theology of Liberation, Patristic Theology and the Ambivalences of Modernity in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective, (Athens: Indiktos Publications), 2012; 'Many Women Were There…': The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, Future (Geneva/Volos: WCC Publications/Volos Academy), 2011, Ecclesiology and Nationalism (in English, in the journal St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly 57: 3-4, 2013), Orthodox Handbook on Ecumenism: Resources for Theological Education "That They All May Be One" (John17,21) Editors: Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Thomas FitzGerald, Cyril Hovorun, Aikaterini Pekridou, Nikolaos Asproulis,*

Dietrich Werner, and Guy Liagre, Volos / Geneva/ Oxford, Volos Academy Publications/ WCC Publications/Regnum Books International, 2014. Forthcoming publications of papers presented at our Academy's previous conferences include, among others: Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism, Church and Culture, Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theology: Can Orthodox Theology Be Contextual?, Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life, and Church and State. Since 2012, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies has also been active in self-publishing in English (in the series: "Doxa and Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology," in collaboration with WCC Publications), and has already published the first two volumes in the series: Orthodox Theology in the Twenty-first Century (Metropolitan Kallistos Ware) and Orthodoxy and Political Theology (Pantelis Kalaitzidis).

For the academic year 2013-14, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, continuing the tradition of timely and high-level academic events, has organized important international conferences on issues such as: The Canons of the Church and Modern Challenges In parallel, The Volos Academy will also organize roundtable discussions, public events, new book presentations and seminars on topics such as the presentation of the "Orthodox Handbook on Ecumenism: Resources for Theological Education", "The Revelation of the Cross: The Gospel of John and the origins of Christian theology", "Dying to live: The mystery of Christ and the foundations of Christian anthropology", the participation of the Orthodox Church in the Ecumenical Movement, the dialogue between Theology and Psychology etc., while also, for the eighth consecutive year, preparing a training seminar for public school teachers of theology and religion

In addition, the Volos Academy, in collaboration with the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, has established an online digital Orthodox theological library (www.imdlibrary.gr), with free access to books, scholarly reviews and periodicals, collected works, monographs and theological essays, and also links to other online digital libraries and websites. Thanks to this initiative, the Volos Academy has been honored to participate in the Global Digital Theological Library (GlobTheoLib: www.globethics.net/gtl). This online library aims to use new digital models for the exchange of information in order to contribute to the efficient transmission and exchange of theological knowledge, overcoming local barriers and physical difficulties that impede theological communication between North and South, East and West. The Global Online Theological Library provides registered users free access to the full texts of hundreds of thousands (to date: 600,000) articles, theses and dissertations, and other publications in various languages related to theology and the ecumenical movement

Finally, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies features a library / reading room, started its operation in January 2008. It is mainly intended for theologians - teachers, as well as special groups such as clergy, students, scholars and researchers. The collection consists of some 11,000 titles cataloged (8,000 books and 114 journal titles), and is constantly updated with new material. The electronic catalogue (OPAC) of the Volos Academy Library is available on line at http://www.imd.gr/openbiblio/opac/index.php.

Metropolitan of Diokleia Kallistos Ware, Othodox Theology in the 21st Century

While in the 20th century the main problem of theology was the ecclesiological one, that is the issue of the identity and nature of the Church, in the 21st century —due to rapid and startling developments in the area of biotechnology, genetic engineering and computer science— the major problem that orthodox theology will deal with is anthropology.

Islam and Fundamantalism- Orthodox Christianity and Globalization (Collected work)

The rise of political Islam and the reactions of many Orthodox Christians against globalization raise the possibility that despite their significant differences, neither Islam nor Orthodox Christianity, which both find themselves today facing the dilemma "fundamentalism or globalization", have in fact solved (each for different reasons) the issue of their relationship with modernity.

Gender and Religion- The Role of Women in the Church (Collected work)

A serious theological study —and basically a self-critical discussion— about the whole range of standpoints of orthodox theology and tradition on the critical issue of the place of women in the Church: from the radical questioning and overcoming of any kind of discrimination (including that based on gender) to the undermining and hierarchical subversion of women to men.

1. Orthodox Christianity & Modernity (Collected work)

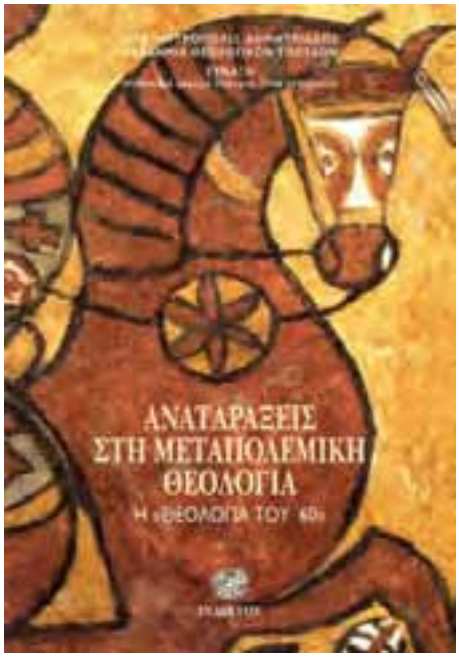
2. Prolegomena:Pantelis Kalaitzidis

Did Orthodox Christianity stop before modernity? Has Orthodox Christianity come to terms with modernity and its consequences at the social and cultural level? Are human rights compatible with the orthodox ethos and to what extent is the emergence of the subject necessarily linked to individualism and negation of communion of persons? Are Orthodox Christianity and Enlightenment necessarily mutually exclusive? What does the Church have to say in the postmodern and multicultural age? What is Orthodox Christianity after all: a religion of the past and a struggle to preserve "historical privileges" or a way of life for

the present and the future?

Turmoil in Post-war Theology: The "Theology of the '60s" (Collected work)

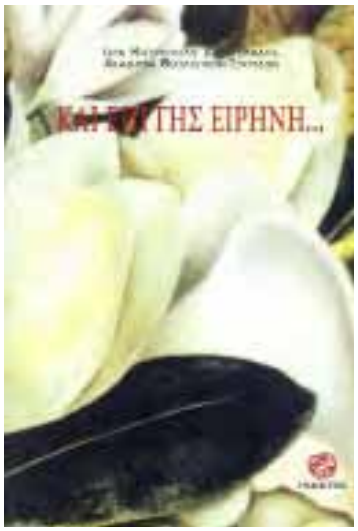
This volume includes the papers (and the discussion) presented at the conference on the "Theology of the '60s," which took place in Volos in May 2005, under the auspices of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and the theological journal Synaxis. This collected volume attempts, for the first time, a multifaceted and critical evaluation of the meaning and the quest of a whole theological generation, which marked the direction of contemporary Orthodox theology in Greece and beyond.



"And on Earth Peace…" A Vision and A Demand for Societies and Churches Today:

An Orthodox Contribution (Collected work)

This collective volume contains the papers from a seminar organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in the frame of the DOV program of the WCC and the "International Peace Convocation," which will take place May 2011, in Kingston, Jamaica. The papers of the volume emphasize the necessity of an Orthodox contribution to a culture of peace. This contribution should not focus on a mere description of the phenomena of violence and war, but offer a prophetic theological word and vision for the transformation of the whole world and the foretaste of what is not yet fulfilled.



Biblical Liberation Theology, Patristic Theology and the Ambivalences of Modernity in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective (Collected work)

A collective volume based on the lectures addressed at the seminar for graduate students organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in collaboration with the School of Theology, University of Heidelberg and the School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki. The volume attempts to open, for the first time, a debate between patristic and liberation theology and additionally to consider the challenges and ambivalences of modernity, from an Orthodox and ecumenical theological perspective.

Many Women Were There… The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, Future
WCC and Volos Academy Publications

The volume includes the papers presented at the international consultation which took place in Volos in June 2008 and was a joint organization of the "Women in Church and Society" Program of the WCC and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies. This collection of articles shows off the multifaceted participation of Orthodox women theologians in the ecumenical movement and at the same time the theological challenges they faced in this framework. The questions raised in the ecumenical context regarding the role of women in theology and the life of the Church offered a good opportunity to the Orthodox to start an internal, self-critical discussion, which is still necessary and apropos.

Religion and Literature

(Issues of the Literary Journal Nea Hestia)
1st, 2nd, and 3rd part
March 2004, March 2005, and September 2009 respectively

Church and Culture in Contemporary Greek Theology
(Issue of the Journal Istina)

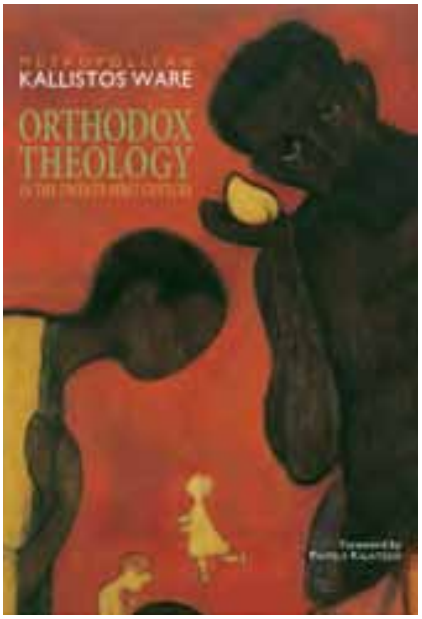
The well-known French theological and ecumenical journal "Istina" dedicated a whole issue (No 1, January-March 2010) to the International Conference of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, "Church and Culture", which took place in Volos in 2009. The volume includes the French translation of the papers of seven Greek Orthodox theologians (Metropolitan of Nigeria Alexander, Rev Dr Lambros Kamperidis, Rev Dr Dimitrios Barthellos, Prof. Niki Papageorgiou, Prof. Chrysostomos Stamoulis, Prof. Dimitrios Moschos, and Dr Pantelis Kalaitzidis) and attempts to expound the theological discussion on the relation between Church and Culture, Church and world, Church and local traditions, and Church and mission in Greece nowadays.

Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Orthodoxie şi modernitate. O Introducere
Traducere din neogreacă de Florin-Cătălin Ghiţ, Prefaţă de Radu Preda,
Colecţia Universitas, Seria Theologia Socialis 9, Eikon, Cluj-Napoca, 2010

The Romanian translation of Pantelis Kalaitzidis' book: Orthodoxy and Modernity. Prolegomena (Indiktos Publications, 2007)

Metropolitan of Diokleia Kallistos Ware, Orthodox Theology in the Twenty-first Century, Foreword by Pantelis Kalaitzidis,
"Doxa and Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology" series,
Geneva: WCC Publications, 2012

In this inaugural volume of the series "Doxa & Praxis," the His Eminence Metropolitan Kallistos Ware examines the questions and concerns that Orthodoxy and its theology will face in the area primarily of anthropology, particularly in light of rapid and startling developments in the area of biotechnology, genetic engineering, and computer science.

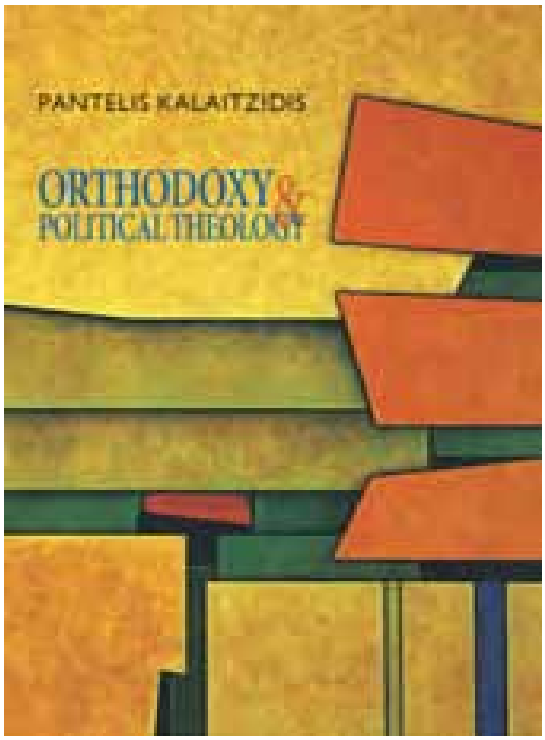


Christians in the Middle East
Special issue of The Ecumenical Review

The well-known English-language journal The Ecumenical Review devoted its entire issue No. 1, 2012, to a selection of papers presented at the international conference on "Christian Presence and Witness in Palestine and the Middle East Today: Theological and Political Challenges," which was held in June 2011 by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in collaboration with the World Council of Churches. This issue includes texts from theologians, intellectuals, and committed Christians from the Middle East and other regions of the world (Michel Nseir, Jamal Hader, Radu Preda, Ekaterini G. Tsalampouni, Robert O. Smith, Nora Cort, Tarek Mitri, Assaad Elias Kattan, Mary Mikhael, Pantelis Kalaitzidis), which highlight the issue's theological and political challenges.

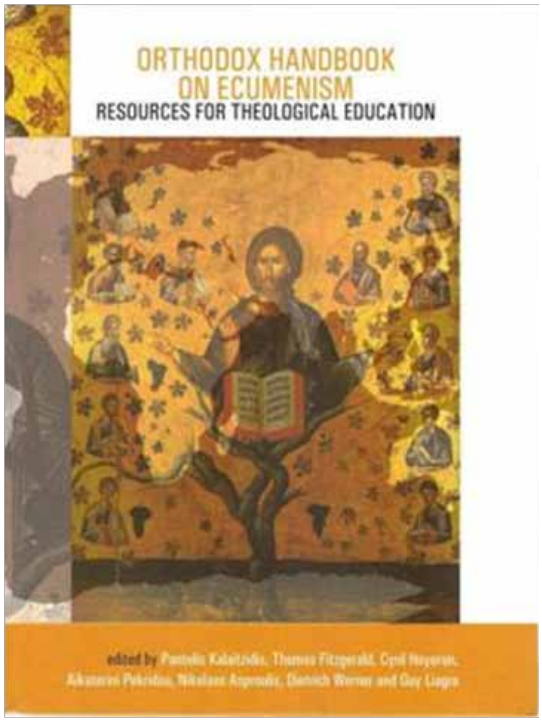
Ecclesiology and Nationalism
Special double issue of St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly

The present (double) issue (57:3-4, 2013) of the well-known theological journal St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly, published by the St. Vladimir's Theological Seminary (Crestwood, NY), is dedicated to an International Conference that was held in Volos, Greece, between 24-27 of May 2012, and was organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, in cooperation with the Chair of Orthodox Theology at Munster University (Germany), the Center for Orthodox Christian Studies at Fordham University (NY, USA), the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER, Cluj-Napoca, Romania), the Christian Cultural Centre (Belgrade, Serbia), the St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute (Moscow, Russia), the Valamo Lay Academy (Finland), and the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels). Under the topic "Ecclesiology and Nationalism" the present volume includes 17 articles by eminent Orthodox theologians and historians, which study the relationship between Orthodoxy and Nationalism (as a result of the close relationship between Church and State, in most traditional Orthodox countries), the issue of ethnophyletism and its contribution to the formation of the national Churches, the emergence of the so-called "Diaspora, the issue of primacy, etc.



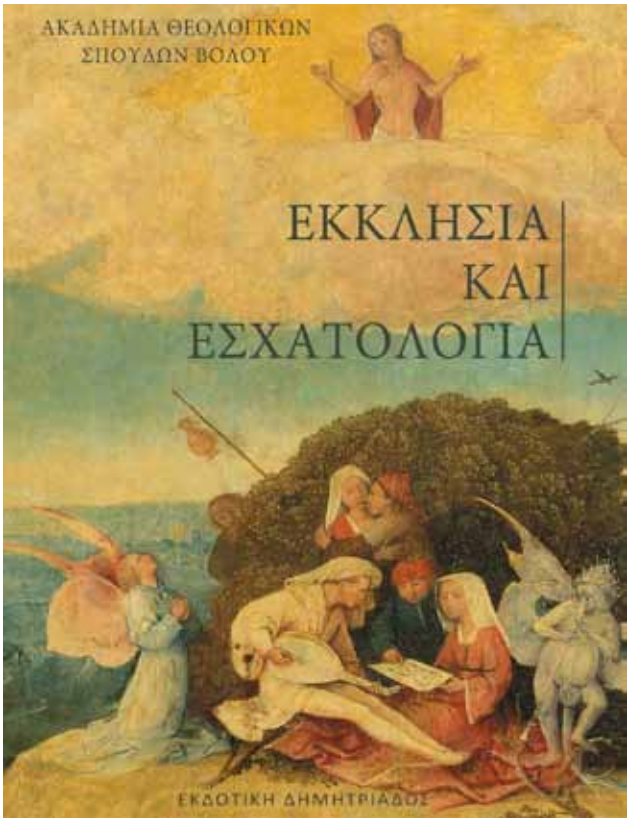
Pantelis Kalaitzidis,
Orthodoxy and Political Theology
"Doxa & Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology" series,
Geneva: WCC Publications, 2012

The central question posed by this book can be summarized as "Why has political theology not been successful in the Orthodox world?" After recalling Orthodoxy's robust ecclesiology and rich doctrinal and liturgical tradition, the book offers a number of historical reasons, but is primarily due to Orthodoxy's half-hearted presence in the political sphere, including subjugation at various times to different authoritarian regimes, from the Ottoman Empire to the Soviet Union. The work also highlights the elements of its tradition that could be used to formulate an Orthodox political theology and public witness.



Orthodox Hanbook on Ecumenism
Resources for Theological Education
Edited by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Thomas Fitzgerald, Cyril Hovorun, Aikaterini Pekridou, Nikolaos Asproulis, Dietrich Werner and Guy Liarge, Volos/Geneva/Oxford: Volos Academy Publications/WCC Publications/Regnum Books International, 2014

The Orthodox Handbook on Ecumenism was initiated as a joint project of the Programme on Ecumenical Theological Education of the World Council of Churches (ETE/WCC), the former Churches in Dialogue Commission of the Council of European Churches (CiD/CEC) and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies. It is an attempt to include both the fruit of the bilateral dialogues, as well as the achievements of the multilateral dialogue, and map the current Orthodox theological reflection around the world on different questions discussed in the ecumenical movement. Apart from the positive achievements, the Handbook attempts to also present the challenges posed to the Orthodox tradition, and the need for ecumenical theological education at present. The Handbook is divided in 8 sections, plus an appendix, while it is accompanied by a Digital Reader (CD-ROM) of Official Reference Texts (Patriarchal and Synodical Encyclicals, Letters, Pan-Orthodox Decisions etc.).



Church and Eschatology (collective)
Εκκλησία και Εσχατολογία (συλλογικό),
Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2014
Central Distribution, Armos Publishing House

Identifying the Church with the "already," the realized, and underestimating the eschatological dimension, the "not yet," what has not yet realized, the vision of the coming Kingdom of God and the dynamic transformation and renovation of the universe is underestimated, for the sake of an ideological and a outdated understanding of Orthodoxy.

With the re-publication of the volume "Church and Eschatology," which contains the presentations of the first cycle of lectures of the same name organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in Volos, during the academic year 2000-01, the Volos Academy by the "Volos Academy Publications" entering a new and important phase of its publishing program, with the self-publication of its projects (conference proceedings and seminars, public lectures and events), but also by publishing individual works of wider theological and intellectual interest, of both Greek and foreign authors and scholars.

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