

**VOLOS ACADEMY FOR THEOLOGICAL STUDIES**

**RESEARCH CENTER**



## Orthodoxy and “Open Society”



**ACADEMIC YEAR 2014-15**

**PROGRAM AND PARALLEL EVENTS**





**T**hroughout the 20th century and even more in the early 21st, Orthodoxy has been confronted with many unprecedented challenges which call for a radical re-evaluation of its identity. The various transformations and rapid changes at the political, social and spiritual levels during those years have highlighted the need for a sincere meeting of the Orthodox Church and theology with the quests of the postmodern pluralist society, which often seems to move without a compass. The necessity of a meeting and dialogue between Orthodoxy and the surrounding world is not a demand imposed upon the Church by the current context; it is certainly the result of its deep theological consciousness and faith. On one hand, the fundamental belief in a Triune God being in himself and self-revealed in Creation as a constant dialogue in communion of love and freedom, and on the other hand the reality of the divine-human dialogue as it is expressed primarily in the very event of the Incarnation of the Son and Word of God in history, confirm and express the deep roots of the dialogical and relational identity of ecclesiastical Orthodoxy.

Through the experiences of daily practice, the inherent nature of this openness, and the dialogical character with the Other, the Church will soon realize that her very being passes through the fruitful and lasting meeting with the contemporary, real world, with its various impasses and possibilities. This world is quite different from the glorious historical or imaginary past that offers to the Church only an illusion of security and purity from the alleged un-cleanliness of the contemporary secularized society.





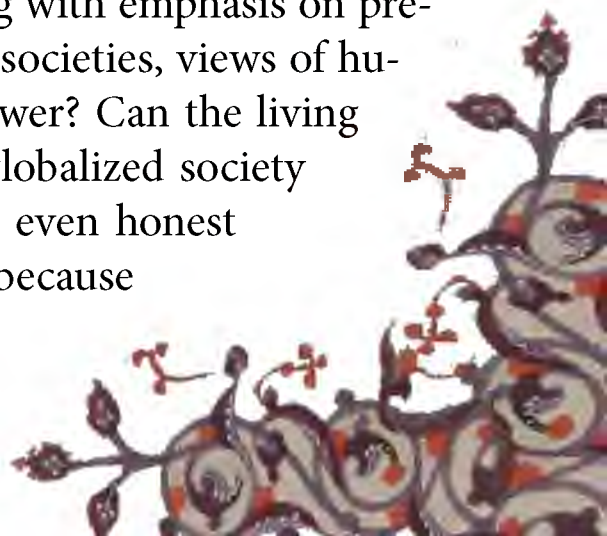
Although for decades this fruitful encounter with the demands of (post) modernity was postponed or caused feelings of fear and hesitation among the Orthodox, this meeting is now shown to be not only necessary but also inevitable as long as the Church herself and her theology remain receptive before the creative and refreshing breeze of the Spirit. The Paraclete calls her in a prophetic way to constantly preach the gospel, to work for the continuing and ever-new incarnation of God's word, by seeking to address soteriologically the problems and the existential needs of humanity.

Orthodoxy, despite the enormous progress in growing and consolidating the principles of democracy, human rights, freedom of speech, dignity and self-worth of the human subject, remains constantly hesitant or takes a defensive attitude towards the challenges facing the context of the "open society" and a pluralistic world where the encounter and coexistence of various values, traditions and ideologies is neither easy nor always possible without problems. Today, various tensions and difficulties are observed in contemporary European societies, such as the revival of totalitarian ideologies that seek, due to the economic crisis, to exploit the passions and weaknesses of people diverse cutting trends and the restriction of civil liberties and democratic values due to the resurgence of religious fundamentalism, which in the name of God and religion is ready to bloody all of humanity, the systematic demoralization and removal of the anthropological constants of dignity, freedom, equality, etc. Against these challenges, Orthodoxy is able to offer hope and an alternative way of life, by helping people to look to the future with greater faith and optimism.

By taking as her starting point on the one hand, the loving-communal-sacrificial ethos, as it was manifested in the self-revelation of the Triune God in Christ and focusing on the other hand, on the personal mode of being that summarizes her entire soteriological proposal for human being, the Orthodox Church and her critical / prophetic voice and theology may propose a different model of life and social coexistence where the respect given to the absoluteness of personal freedom and otherness will be a fundamental cultural condition of the coexistence between different peoples and cultures. The anthropological ideal of the person, such as it is diachronically incarnated in the experience and

life of the members of the Eucharistic body and is witnessed in the biblical, patristic, liturgical and canonical texts of Orthodoxy, without being an easy task and enterprise, is the most precious gift that Orthodoxy can provide modern person, who is asked to foretaste even now partially in history the freedom of the “sons of God.” In this perspective, the Church should never forget that she does not take her identity primarily from the past or present, but from the future, the coming kingdom, whose foretaste in the context of the Eucharistic synaxis protects her from the constant double temptation of the immanent spirit and historical marginalization, which would make her soteriological proposal meaningless. In addition, the active and creative presence of the Church in the public space, apart from the aspirations and fantasies of any favorable and preferential treatment due to her glorious historical role, but with full respect to the conditions and the rules of this area will be able to offer the various guarantees for her process in the history without problems, focusing both on the relieving of human’s pain and emphasizing the dialogical ethos by which she must be characterized, not only at the level of theological principles, but also at the level of her internal structure, both as an immanent institution, but also as a way of being that images the unity of humankind in the coming Kingdom of God.

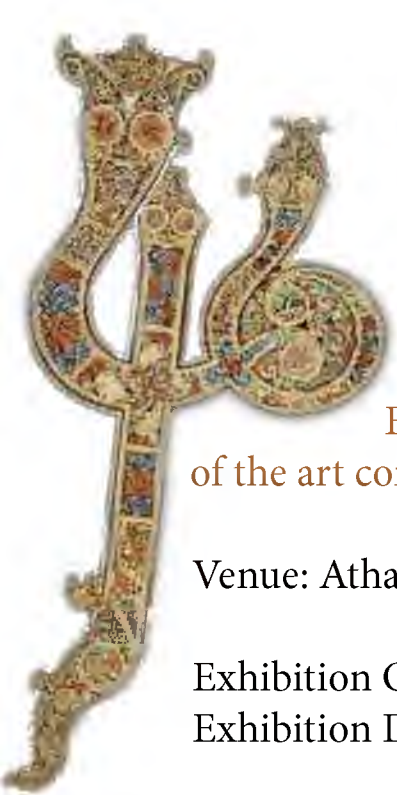
Keeping in mind this problematic, Orthodox theology ought to reflect sincerely and unhesitatingly on diverse questions such as: What is the role that Orthodoxy wishes to play in the “open society”? Is it possible to still closely relate to ideologies and worldviews that are coming or can be identical to dark periods of history or be exploited for alien purposes by various inhuman and totalitarian ideologies, thereby openly ignoring her eschatological identity? Is it possible, at times when liberal principles of democratic society are subject to threat under friendly and enemy fire, for the Church and her theology to continue to reject altogether any modernist conquests of human rights and freedom of speech, insisting with emphasis on pre-modern closed structures of organization of the societies, views of human beings or relationships with the secular power? Can the living ecclesiastical consciousness within the present globalized society insist on being self-closed, without reference or even honest dialogue with other Christian traditions, which, because of their historical context, could offer their



invaluable expertise with the various aspects of modernity and late modernity, secularism and post-secularism? Can Orthodoxy be able to express a discourse of love and solidarity to everyone else, regardless of religious, social and cultural backgrounds? Is it possible for the Church to coexist in a rapidly changing political and cultural environment, adjusting her own way (e.g. her Canon law) to the operating rules of a modern democratic state, without requiring preferential treatment because of her historical contribution to the nation? Can Orthodoxy, by respecting the pluralistic character of contemporary society and the secularized nature of the modern liberal state, contribute to the humanization of man and the emergence of its truth?

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies will address these above issues and questions in a series of events, lectures, book presentations, conferences and seminars organized in collaboration with other Orthodox or inter-Christian ecumenical organizations, institutes, seminaries and academies, in the period between January-June 2015.





## A. EVENTS-LECTURES-BOOK PRESENTATIONS

### 1. Tassos Margaritov (1925-2014)

#### **The man, the pioneer art conservator, the teacher**

Exhibition of photos about the life and the activity  
of the art conservator Tassos Margaritov

Venue: Athanassakio Archeological Museum of Volos

Exhibition Opening: February, Friday 27, 2015, 2.30 p.m.

Exhibition Duration: February 27- April 30, 2015

The exhibition is organized by the Department of the Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the Magnesia Ephorate of Antiquities in the context of the 5th conference of archaeological work Thessaly-Central Greece which is organized at the University of Thessaly

### 2. Myths and Realities about addiction

#### **Two meetings featuring a dialogue between theology and psychology**

1st Meeting: «Christian community, mutual support and addictions»

Saturday, March 14, 2015, Volos Municipal Building, 6:30 p.m.

#### SPEAKERS:

**Ioanna Georgiadou**, Social Clinic Psychologist of addictions and psycho-social problems (MSc), PhD candidate, Thessaly University

**Alexandros Katsiaras**, Theologian-Writer, Director of the journal *Ephimerios* and the Radio Station of the Church of Greece

2nd Meeting: «Christian spirituality, life meaning and addictions»

Saturday, March 28, 2015, Volos Municipal Building, 6:30 p.m.

#### SPEAKERS:

**Phaidon Kaloterakis**, Special Consultant of the Director of the Addictions and Treatment Center, North Greece

**Rev. Christodoulos Bethas**, Priest, Church of the Archangels, Moschato, Attica

The series of dialogues between theology and psychology has been organized for the third consecutive year 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

### **3. The existence of God and the challenge of modern atheism** The Inaugural Virginia H. Farah Annual Lecture

1st Lecture: Athens, May, Thursday, 5, 2015

The Kostis Palamas University Building (Akadimias and Sina) 6.00 p.m.

2nd Lecture: Volos, May, Wednesday 6, 2015

Thessalia Conference Center (Melissatika) 6.30 p.m.

SPEAKER:

**Dr. Richard Swinburne**, Emeritus Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion, University of Oxford, Emeritus Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, Fellow of the British Academy.

Dr. Richard Swinburne’s lectures in Athens and Volos will be given in English (Greek translation will also be available). Admission is free open to the public

### **4. Presentation of the Book Series “In Dialogue” and of the general publication program of the Volos Academy Publications**

The place and the time of this event will be announced in the near future. For information please visit: [www.acadimia.org](http://www.acadimia.org)



## September-December 2014

### 1. Honorary Event about Tassos Margaritov

Part I - coordination: Nikos Tsoukas “Magniton Kivotos”

Greetings

- Metropolitan **Ignatius** of Dimitrias
- **Nikolaos Zias**, Chairman of the European Center of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments, Emeritus Professor, University of Athens
- “Magniton Kivotos” Representative
- Volos Academy for Theological Studies Representative

Speakers:

**Anastasia Lazaridou**, Director, Ephorate of Eastern Attica Antiquities, former Director of the Athens Byzantine and Christian Museum

**Thalia Papageorgiou**, Former Head of the Conservation Department of the Athens Byzantine and Christian Museum

Part II

Round Table Discussion:

**Yioulika Zachariou**, Art Conservator, former Director of the Conservation Laboratory of the 3rd Ephorate of Pre-historic and Classic Antiquities

**Anastasia Dina**, Art Conservator, Head of Conservation Department of the Magnesia Ephorate of Antiquities

**Ioannis Papaioanou**, Painter-Art Conservator

**Ioannis Skotiniotis**, Art Conservator, Iconographer

**Documentary about Tassos Margaritov**



Moderator

[Maria Nanou](#), BA in Theology, MA in History of Byzantine Art  
Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Department of the Research, Management  
and Conservation of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics

The event concluded with an intervention by [Mania Margaritov-Kontaratou](#),  
Art Conservator

December, Saturday 13, 2014

Thessalia Conference Center (Melissatika), Volos, 6.30 p.m.

The event was organized by the Department of the Research, Management and Conservation  
of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics of the Volos Academy for Theological  
Studies in cooperation with “Magniton Kivotos”, under the auspices of the Holy Metropolis of  
Demetrias

### **2. The revival of a long forgotten service of the Byzantine (Cosmic) rite, the Trithekti**

Led by Metropolitan of Demetrias and Almyros Ignatius

With the participation of the Chanters Chorus “Trikis Melodoi” (Trikala, Thessaly, Greece)  
with Choir Director and Assistant Professor of Byzantine Musicology of the University of Ath-  
ens [Dr. Dimitrios Balageorgos](#) and the Chanters Chorus of the Volos Chanters Association  
with Choir Director, Director of the Department of Chanting Art and Musicology, and As-  
sistant Professor of Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens [Dr. Constantine Ch. Karagounis](#).

The service was prefaced with a special lecture on the Byzantine rite by [Prof. Dimitrios Bala-  
georgos](#)

Church of Transfiguration in Volos

Friday, December 19, 2014, 6.00-8.00pm

The event was organized by the Department of Chanting Art and Musicology of the Volos  
Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the Department of Culture of the Mu-  
nicipality of Volos

### 1. Holy Canons of the Church and State Laws Volos, February, 13-15, 2015

Friday, February 13, 2015, 6:00 p. m.

Thessalia Conference Center, (Melissatika), Volos

#### **1st Session:** *Human Rights and Internal Law of the Church*

Presentations:

Achilleas Emilianidis, Professor, Law Department Nicosia University, Cyprus

Theodoros Papageorgiou, Lawyer - LL.M. – Special Legal Consultant of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece,

Interventions:

Nikolaos Maggioros, Assistant Professor, Theological Faculty, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Rev. Vasileios Trobokis, Dr. of Law - MTh, Lecturer Athens Higher Ecclesiastical Academy,

#### **2nd Session:** *The Bishops between the secular/legal and the canonical tradition*

Presentations:

Vasileios Markos, Dr. of Law-Lawyer,

Dimitrios Nikolakakis, Dr. of Law-Lawyer - Assistant Professor, Theological Faculty, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Interventions:

Ioannis Kastanas, Lawyer - LL.M.

#### **3rd Session:** *Ecclesiastical Courts-Disciplinary Boards*

Presentations:

Anastasios K. Vavouskos, Dr. of Law – Lawyer

Zoe Karamitrou-Stathopoulou, Dr. of Law – Special Advisor on the Greek «Ombudsman»

Interventions:

Rev. Grigorios Papathomas, Professor University of Athens and St. Sergius Orthodox Institute in Paris

Philipos Takopoulos, Religious Teacher – PhD candidate in Canon Law

### **4th Session:** *Civil marriage and free unions*

#### Presentations:

Georgios Iatrou, Dr. of Law – Lawyer

Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies  
– Lecturer in Hellenic Open University – FWO Pegasus Short Marie Curie  
Research Fellow, KU Leuven

#### Interventions:

Alexandros Manzoutsos, Dr. of Law-Lawyer

Chrysa Chrysaygi, Lawyer – PhD candidate in Law

### **5th Session:** *Ecclesiastical funeral and burial or cremation*

#### Presentations:

Georgios I. Androutsopoulos, Lecturer, Law School, University of Athens,  
Lawyer

Rev. Christos Chachamidis, Priest of the Metropolis of Demetrias, Member of the  
Board of Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

#### Interventions:

Emmanuel Androulakakis, Lawyer-LL.M.-Legal Consultant of the Local Synod  
of the Church of Crete

Leonidas Katsiras, School Consultant of Legal and Political Sciences-LL.M.

### **6th Session:** The Succession of Monks

#### Presentations:

Michael Vasilikos, Lawyer - LL.M. – Legal Consultant of the Metropolis of Demetrias-  
Cashier of the Volos Bar Association

Athanasios Kontis, Dr. of Law-Lawyer

The conference is organized in cooperation with the Ecclesiastical and Canon Law Association and the Volos Bar Association

For more information and registration, contact the Secretariat of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Tel. +30 24210-93553, -93573, -93572

[www.acadimia.org](http://www.acadimia.org), e-mail: [info@acadimia.org](mailto:info@acadimia.org)



## 2. Political Orthodoxy and Totalitarianism in a post Communist Era

Helsinki, Finland, May 28-30, 2015

Thursday, May 28, 2015, 3.30 p.m.

### PRESENTERS:

Rev. Dr. Cyril Hovorun, Research Fellow, Yale University, USA

*Political Orthodoxy: Concept and Implications*

Dr. Ivana Noble, Protestant Faculty of Theology, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

*Theology after totalitarian experience*

Metropolitan of Helsinki Ambrosius

*"Demythologizing" of Nation in Finland*

Rev. Dr. Gregorios Papathomas, Professor at the School of Theology of the University of Athens and the Orthodox Institute of St. Serge, Paris, President of the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels)

*Democracy, Ecclesiocracy and Ecclesiality*

Dr. Michael Hjälms, Academic Dean of Sankt Ignatius Theological Academy, Sodertälje, Assistant Professor at the University of Uppsala, Sweden

*Deconstruction and Hope: The Foundation of Self-Assessment and Accountability and a Trepidation within Contemporary Orthodox Theology*

Kristina Stoeckl, Austrian Program for Advanced Research and Technology, Fellow of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Department of Political Sciences at the University of Vienna

*Orthodoxy and Human Rights. An intricate issue?*

Dr. Radu Preda, Director, Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER), Associate Professor of Social Theology, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Babes-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

*Human Rights as Social-theological Challenge for the Orthodox Praxis and Mentality*

Dr. Effie Fokas, Research Fellow at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) Principal Investigator in a European Research Council-funded project related to religious freedoms jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights (Grassrootsmobilise), Athens, Greece

*The challenge of Pluralism in Orthodoxy*

Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou, Professor, Co-Founding Director of the Center for Orthodox Christian Studies, Fordham University, New York, USA

*Orthodox Liberalism and Secularism*

Dr. Vasilios Makrides, Professor of Sociology of Orthodox Christianity, University of Erfurt, Germany

*Orthodox Christianity and Liberalism: Critical Reflections on a Debated Topic in History and at Present*

Nadieszda Kizenko, Associate Professor, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences, Albany University, New York, USA

*The concept of Orthodoxy within the Political sciences*

Rev. Dr. Paul Gavrilyuk, Professor, Aquinas Chair in Theology and Philosophy, Theology Department, St. Thomas University, USA

*Political agenda and theological premises in 20th c. Orthodox theology*

Dr. Davor Džalto, Associate Professor, American University of Rome, Italy, Chairman of the Institute for the Study of Culture and Christianity, Belgrade, Serbia

*Speaking Truth, Challenging Power Structures: (Orthodox) Theology as a Critical Discourse*

Nikolaos Asproulis, MTh, PhD (ABD) Academic Associate of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, and the journal Theologia

*“Church and World Dogmatics”: A new perspective for Orthodox theology and education in a post-Communist world*

Dr. Vera Shevzov, Professor of Religious Studies, Smith College, USA

*The Russian World: Orthodox Memory and its Challenges in the Global, Post-Soviet Era*

Rev. Dr. Nicholas Denysenko, Assistant Professor, Department of Theology, Loyola University Marymount, USA

*Ecclesial Legitimacy and Identity: The Churches and the War in Ukraine*

Dr. Alexei Bodrov, Rector St. Andrew's Theological Institute, Moscow, Russia

*Orthodoxy, Islam and State in post-Communist Russia*

Dr. Anna Briskina- Müller, Faculty of Theology, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

*Power and Victory as central categories of the Russian Church and State Discourse today*

**Dr. Souad Slim**, Professor of History, Cultural Studies and Methodology, Art School, Social Sciences School and Theological Institute Balamand University, Lebanon

*The imperial Russian society in Palestine. The Rebirth of an old model*

**Samir Morcos**, Member to the National Council for Human Rights and the Norwegian Academy for Arts and freedom of expression (Cairo, Egypt)

*Church state society: the case of Egypt*

**Dr. Assaad Elias Kattan**, Professor, Chair of Orthodox Theology, University of Münster, Germany

*Silence as a form of Treason. Church in Syria challenged by the “Spring”*

**Dr. Lucian Leustan**, Senior Fellow, Transatlantic Academy, Washington DC and Aston University, Birmingham, United Kingdom

*Eastern Christianity and the Liberal International Order*

**Dr. Krastu Banev**, Lecturer, Department of Religious Studies, Durham University, UK

*Bulgarian Orthodoxy against the challenges of the post-communist era*

**Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis**, Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, FWO Pegasus Short Marie Curie Research Fellow, KU Leuven

*Church, State and Society in Greece: From the Dictatorship to Democracy, from the Byzantine “Symphonia” to the challenges of the pluralistic society*

The Conference has been organized in cooperation with the Center for Orthodox Christian Studies at Fordham University (NY, USA), the Chair of Orthodox Theology at Münster University (Germany), the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER. Cluj-Napoca, Romania), the St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute (Moscow, Russia), the Sankt Ignatius Theological Academy, (Sodertälje, Sweden), the Center for the Study of Christianity and Culture (Belgrade, Serbia), and the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels), with the support of the Orthodox Metropolis of Helsinki.



### 3. The Baptism in the New Testament from an Orthodox and Roman Catholic perspective

June, 11-13, 2015

Thursday, June 11, 2015, 5.00 p.m.

Thessalia Conference Center, (Melissatika), Volos

Dr. Petros Vassiliadis, Emeritus Professor, School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

*Baptism in the New Testament: An Orthodox View*

Dr. Filippo Belli, Professor of New Testament at the Central Italy Faculty of Theology in Florence

*Baptism in the New Testament: A Catholic View*

Dr. Konstantinos Zarras, Assistant Professor, School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

*Baptism in Judaism and in Graeco-Roman Mystery Cults*

Dr. Stefano Tarocchi, Professor of New Testament and Dean of the Central Italy Faculty of Theology in Florence

*Baptism in the Synoptic Gospels and Acts*

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

*Baptism in John*

Dr. Elena Giannarelli, Professor at the University of Florence, Faculty of Letters – Rev. Dr. Demetrios Bathrellos, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University (Patras) and Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies (Cambridge), Member of the Board of Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

*Workshop with one Orthodox and one Catholic paper on the patristic and liturgical reception of Gal 3:26-28*

Dr. Francesco Bianchini, Professor of New Testament at the Pontifical Urbanian University, Faculty of Theology in Rome

Baptism in Paul

Dr. Gioietta Casella, Assistant Professor of New Testament at the Central Italy Faculty of Theology in Florence

*The Holy Spirit as Agent and Gift in the Baptism according to the Pauline Letters*

Dr. Moschos Goutzioudis, Lecturer, School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

*Baptism in Hebrews*



Dr. Stefano Romanello, Professor at the Interdiocesan Theological Studium of Gorizia, Udine, Trieste – Dr. Aikaterini Tsalampouni, Assistant Professor, School of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, member of the Board of Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

*Workshop with one Orthodox and one Catholic paper on Rom 6*

The conference is organized in collaboration with the Catholic Theological Faculty of Florence

### September-December 2015

#### 1. Teaching of ecclesiastical and Byzantine music in music schools: content, methods and results

Annual scientific and educational meeting in memory of Christos Kotopoulou, member of the Department of Chanting Art and Musicology of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and music teacher at the Music School of Volos

Thessalia Conference Center (Melissatika), Volos October, 2015

The meeting is organized by the Department of Chanting Art and Musicology of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the School Counselor of Education Dr. Xanthoula Papapanagiotou

More details and information about the time and the participants of this event will be announced in the near future at <http://tomeaspsaltikis.gr>

#### 2. Metropolitan Kallistos Ware of Diokleia and the witness of Orthodoxy in the West

International Conference on the occasion of the reception of his Eminence Metropolitan of Diokleia Kallistos (Ware) as Fellow of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Thessalia Conference Center, (Melissatika), Volos, November 20-22, 2015

More details and information about the participants of this event will be announced in the near future at [www.acadimia.org](http://www.acadimia.org)

#### 3. Menios Mourtzopoulos on the border of theology and philosophy. A Conference dedicated to the well known scholar, writer, lawyer and translator

Volos, Autumn, 2015 Metropolitan Kallistos' Address: "The Kenosis of Christ our High Priest"  
Thessalia Conference Center, (Melissatika),

More details and information about the time and the participants of this event will be announced in the near future at [www.acadimia.org](http://www.acadimia.org)

### 1. Doing Theology in the Twenty-First Century: Orthodox and Lutheran Perspectives

*A Lutheran-Orthodox Theological Fellowship initiated by the Institute for Ecumenical Research (Strasbourg, France) and the Volos Academy for Theological Studies*

March, 25-29, 2015  
Strasbourg, France

Presenters-Participants

#### **Lutherans:**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Hinlicky Wilson, Assistant Research Professor, Institute for Ecumenical Research, Strasbourg, France, Lutheran co-Chairwoman of the Lutheran-Orthodox Theological Fellowship

*Classic Lutheran Themes in Theology*

Anna-Mária Benková, MTh, Lutheran Theological Faculty, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia

*History and Current Trends in Luther Research*

Rev. Dr. Olli-Pekka Vainio, Senior Lecturer in Systematic Theology, Faculty of Theology, University of Helsinki, Finland

*Postmodern Philosophy and Lutheran Theology*

Rev. Dr. Reinhard Thöle, Professor at the University of Halle, Germany

Rev. Anne Burghardt, MTh, Secretary for Ecumenical Relations, Department for Theology and Public Witness, Lutheran World Federation, Geneva, Switzerland

Martin Kopp, Lutheran Secretary of the Lutheran-Orthodox Theological Fellowship, Protestant Theological Faculty, University of Strasbourg, France

#### **Orthodox**

Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Greece, Orthodox co-Chairman of the Lutheran-Orthodox Theological Fellowship

*New Developments and New Trends in Orthodox Theology*

Dr. Anna Briskina-Müller, Academic Associate at the University of Halle, Germany

*Church and World in Orthodoxy: Theory and Reality*



Dr. Assaad Elias Kattan, Professor, Chair of Orthodox Theology, Münster University, Germany

Orthodox Theology and Hermeneutics: Some Reflections

Rev. Heikki Huttunen, General Secretary, Finnish Ecumenical Council, Orthodox Church of Finland, Helsinki)

Rev. Dr. Radu Bordeanu, Associate Professor, Duquesne University, Pittsburg, PA

Dr. Konstantinos Delikonstantis Professor, Athens University and Institute of Postgraduate Studies in Orthodox Theology, Chambésy, Greece-Geneva

George Vlantis, MTh, Orthodox Secretary of the Lutheran-Orthodox Theological Fellowship, Academic Associate Volos Academy and Department of Orthodox Theology and Munich University, Germany - Greece

## 2. New Testament Scholarship in Ecclesial Context

Athens, Tuesday, March 31, 2015

Featured Speaker:

Dr. Christopher Tuckett, Professor, University of Oxford, UK

Round Table Participants:

Dr. Jeff Baldwin Professor, Hellenic Biblical College, Greece

Dr. Christos Karakolis, Associate Professor, University of Athens, Greece

Dr. Thomas Kraus, Researcher, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Dr. Stefanos Michalios, Professor, Hellenic Biblical College, Greece

Dr. Tobias Nicklas Professor, University of Regensburg, Germany

Dr. Aikaterini Tsalampouni, Assistant Professor, University of Thessaloniki, Greece

The Seminar is organized by the Department for the Study of the Manuscript Tradition of the New Testament, of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

The Seminar will be given in English (Greek translation will be also available)

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

Tel. +30 24210-93553, 93572, 93573

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

### 3. The existence of evil and the problem of theodicy

The Inaugural Virginia H. Farah Annual Seminar

Athens, Saturday, May 9, 2015

Featured Speaker:

**Dr. Richard Swinburne**, Professor Emeritus of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion, University of Oxford, Emeritus Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, Fellow of the British Academy, U.K.

Round Table Participants:

**Dr. Stelios Virvidakis**, Professor, Department of Methodology, History of Philosophy and Science, University of Athens, Greece

**Dr. Michalis Fillipou**, Lecturer, Department of Methodology, History of Philosophy and Science, University of Athens, Greece

**Rev. Evangellos Ganas**, Theologian, Mechanical Engineer, Priest of the St Meletios Church, Athens, Greece

Registration is required for this seminar; please contact and send a brief CV to the Secretariat of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

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[www.acadimia.org](http://www.acadimia.org), e-mail: [info@acadimia.org](mailto:info@acadimia.org)

### 4. International Musicological Inter-Disciplinary Network for Chanting Art

The establishment of the Network is an initiative of the Department of Chanting Art and Musicology of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and the founding meeting will be held in June 2015.

For more information: [tomeaspsaltikis@acadimia.org](mailto:tomeaspsaltikis@acadimia.org)



## 5. Inter-disciplinary research project for the digital recording of the Church monuments, paintings and relics of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias

The project is organized by the Department of Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics

With all the digital material (drawings, photos) that will be collected, a data-base will be made available through the Department offering various research opportunities. On the initiative of the Department an interdisciplinary meeting will be organized in September, 2015 with the aim of creating sub working groups for the fulfillment of the project.

More information about the process of this project will be available at the website of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies: [www.acadimia.org](http://www.acadimia.org)





## **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 Roman Catholic Theological Faculty in Florence, 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 Conference of European Churches (CEC), 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 World Student Christian Federation (WSCF), the Forum of European Muslim Youth Student Organizations (FEMY-SO), the Association of Religious Teachers of Imathia (Greece), the Academic Association for Adult Education, the Mental Health Organization "Health Progress",

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](http://www.orthodoxie.com), the Volos newspaper “I Thessalia,” the leading journal of the study of literature “Nea Hestia,” the theological journal Synaxis, the journals Analogion, Leimonarion, of the Holy Metropolis of Kozani, the Publication Houses, Kastaniotis, Indiktos, Harmos and Hestia. 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 and Culture*,” “*Orthodox Christianity and Multiculturalism*,” “*Lay Participation in Ecclesiastical Life*,” “*Turmoil in Post-war Theology: the ‘Theology of the ’60s’*,” “*Theological Portraits I: Panayiotis Trembelas: Between Tradition and Renewal, Between Academia and Mission*,” “*Church and State*,” “*Orthodox Christianity and Islam: Islam in Europe*,” “*Orthodox Christianity, Tradition, and History*,” “*The Participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, and Future*,” “*Neo-Patristic Synthesis or Post-Patristic Theology: Can Orthodox Theology Be Contextual?*,” “*The Place of Religion in the Public Sphere*,” “*Issues of Renewal and Reform in Orthodoxy*,” “*Refugees, Immigrants, and the Church*,” “*Education through Art*,” “*Shifting Versions of Hellenic Christianity (19th -20th centuries)*,” “*The Question of Language in Worship*,” “*Why is the Orthodox Doctrine of Theosis So Intriguing to Western Christians?*,” “*The Reception of Palamism in the West Today*,” “*The Teaching of Ecumenical Theology in the Orthodox World*,” “*Metropolitan John Zizioulas of Pergamon: Person, Eucharist, and the Kingdom 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 (re-published by the Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2014); *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), "Many Women Were There..." *The participation of Orthodox Women in the Ecumenical Movement: Past, Present, Future*, (WCC Publications-Volos Academy, 2011), *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; *Ecclesiology and Nationalism* (in English, in the journal *St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 57: 3-4, 2013). 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*, etc. 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). Two additional books have been already published by the English department of the Volos Academy Publications: *Orthodox Perspectives on Ecumenical Theological education. The Ecumenical Movement in the Theological Education and in the Life of Orthodox Churches*, Edited by Gennadios of Sassima, Laurentiu of Adreal, Pavel Aurel, Daniel Buda (Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2014) and *Spirituality, Power and Revolution: Contemporary Monasticism in Communist Ethiopia*. Joachim



G. Persoon. With an Overview of the Orthodox Church during Communism by Vaclav Jezek (Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2014).

Furthermore since 2014, the Volos Academy, has entered a new and important phase of its publishing program, by the self-publication through its publishing House “Ekdotiki Dimitriadou/Volos Academy Publications” of various works (conference and seminars, public lectures and events), and also the publication of individual works of wider theological and intellectual relevance, by Greek and foreign authors. In this context the collective volume Church and Eschatology has been already re-published (2014), as well as the first book in Greek translation of the series “*In Dialogue*”: *Jean Daniélou Essay for the mystery of History* (Ekdotiki Dimitriadou/Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2014)

For the academic year 2014-15, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, continued the tradition of timely and high-level academic events, organizing important international conferences on issues such as: *Political Orthodoxy and Totalitarianism in a post Communist Era*. In parallel, The Volos Academy also organized roundtable discussions, public events, and seminars on topics such as the “*Dialogue between theology and Psychology*”, *Holy Canons of the Church and State Laws*, *The problem of evil and the issue of theodicy*, etc.

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, has established an online digital Orthodox theological library ([www.imdlibrary.gr](http://www.imdlibrary.gr)), with free access to books, scholarly reviews and periodicals, collected works, monographs and theological essays, with abstracts available in Greek, English and soon in French language, as well as 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](http://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 20,000 titles catalogued and is constantly updated with new material. The electronic catalogue (OPAC) of the Volos Academy Library is available on line at [www.imd.gr/biblia/tb\\_books\\_list.php/](http://www.imd.gr/biblia/tb_books_list.php/)



## RESEARCH CENTER

Due to the manifold contribution of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies to theology and widely to the scholarly research and culture, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies is included among the recognized Greek research centers by the Law 4310/2014 (“Research, Technological Development and Innovation and other provisions”) of the Greek Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs recently passed by the Greek Parliament.

This is a very important development for the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and an official recognition of its work by the state. This is a milestone in the course of its academic development, at the local, national and international levels. This recognition entrusts the Academy for Theological Studies with more responsibilities and new tasks for the development and international promotion of the scientific theological research being done in our country, and for the vibrant and creative witness of Orthodoxy in the modern world.

The Research Center of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies includes five specialized scientific and research departments which are soon expected to be transformed into research institutes. These departments are:

### *1) Department of Chanting Art and Musicology*

The Department of Chanting Art and Musicology was established by the decision (12 / 08.08.2013) of the Board of the Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies.

The goals of the Department of Chanting Art and Musicology are the research, study, recording, preservation and promotion of Byzantine and post-Byzantine musical culture, particularly of the Ecclesiastical Chanting Art, as preserved in the living oral tradition of the clerics and cantors, and as it also extends till today through its direct and indirect sources (musical manuscripts, theoretical writings and studies, historical evidence, patristic and secular literature, etc). At the same time, the main concern of this Department is the recording and study of the local chanting tradition of Magnesia and the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, through the collection, classification and study of the relevant sources and evidences. In order

to achieve the above objectives, the primary concern of the Department is the organization of a modern musical disk file, cassette, CDs, tapes and various audio recordings, photographs, residues, documents, manuscripts, and other sources for the research and study of Chanting Art in Magnesia, the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, and beyond, and the establishment of a rich lending library of music and musicology.

In addition, the Department is willing to bring together, if possible, all the researchers, scientists and scientific institutions throughout the world, whose discipline or research interests are directly or indirectly related to the Chanting art, and create a global network of partnerships and interactions between them. Therefore, the Department seeks to cooperate and interact with the Institute of Byzantine Musicology of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece, with the Chanting Art Programs of the University Ecclesiastical Academies, with the relevant Departments of the University Schools of Greece and abroad, with cultural organizations (Chanters Associations, Schools of Byzantine Music), etc. In this perspective, the organization of conferences, symposia, workshops, training and educational seminars and all kinds of artistic events on the Chanting Art, as well as the participation of members of the Department in international scientific fora, is self-evident. The Department's objectives also include training the staff to strengthen itself and the most complete realization of its objectives, as well as the publication of studies, doctoral theses, collective volumes, music collections, magazines, discs and other media, the construction and update of web sites and fields of communication and the dissemination of information or the results of these actions to any person or entity who may be interested.

The Director of the Chanting Art and Musicology Department was appointed by the above decision of the Board of Directors. Dr. Konstantinos Karagounis is an Assist. Professor of Byzantine Ecclesiastical Music at the Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens, Chanter and Choir Director, member of the Board of Directors of The Byzantine Musicology Institute of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece and former member of the Board of Directors of the Chanters Association of Volos "John Koukouzelis."

## *2) Department for the study of the manuscript tradition of the New Testament*

The Department for the study of the manuscript tradition of the New Testament was established by the decision (13 / 27.12.2013) of the Board the Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies.

Its main purpose is the creation of a critical edition of the Byzantine text, used by the Eastern Orthodox Church as its liturgical text. Among its objectives are the

finding, collecting, photographing, transcription and study of manuscripts (continuous text or eklogadia) that preserve the Byzantine text type; the education and training of specialists in the criticism of the text; the organization of conferences and seminars; the critical editions of the New Testament text; and especially the re-publication of the Patriarchal edition of 1904 with improvements, corrections and the application in general of modern scientific methodology; the study and promotion of any form of interpretative commentary of the text of the New Testament in Byzantine manuscripts (liturgical manuscripts, catenae etc.); the participation in international fora; cooperation with related research institutions abroad; the publication of an electronic journal for the dissemination of the results of the research project; the construction and maintenance of a web page for the information of the international academic community; and cooperation with the Eastern Orthodox Churches for the re-publication and critical correction of the New Testament text in use (especially in modern eklogadia) by virtue of a research of the manuscript tradition.

This Department intends to a) fill a significant gap in research, since the related international research centers engage in other forms of textual tradition of the ancient Church (e.g. the Alexandrian text, scrolls, ancient Latin translations, etc.), having as its objective the closest approximation of the original text of the New Testament, and not the restoration of “living text” in the Byzantine tradition; b) investigate and highlight an important part of the tradition the ancient Church, which until now has not been sufficiently exploited; c) provide substantial services mainly to Greek-speaking Orthodox Churches by contributing to re-publication of the text of the New Testament used in their daily liturgical practice; and d) promote at an international scientific level the culturally invaluable and important heritage of the Greek manuscripts of the New Testament.

Directors of the Department were appointed by the above decision of the Board members the Volos Academy for Theological Studies:

(1) Christos Karakolis, Assoc. Professor of the New Testament, University of Athens, Member of the Editorial Committee of critical editions of the New Testament “Nestle-Aland” and “Greek New Testament,” member of the Committee of Scientific Publications of the German Bible Society, a member of the Steering Committee of the *Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas* and vice President of the Committee for the development of the New Testament in Eastern Europe, member of the Advisory Board of the journal *Early Christianity*, of the *Colloquium Oecumenicum Paulinum* and *Colloquium Ioanneum*.

(2) Aikaterini Tsalampouni, Assist. Professor of New Testament at Thessaloniki Aristotle University, member of the Steering Committee of the European Associa-



tion of Biblical Studies, member of the Board of Directors of the European Society of Women in Theological Research, member of the Society of Biblical Literature, of the Colloquium Oecumenicum Paulinum and of the General Assembly of the Greek Bible Society.

### 3) *Department of Canonical Theology*

The Department of Canonical Theology was founded by the decision (14 / 25.08.2014) of the Board of Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies.

The Department aims to investigate, study and highlight issues such as the genesis and origins of the Canons, the Canonical tradition, and the Canonical Hermeneutic.

Specifically, this three-fold research project will cover the following areas from the perspective of the study, research and life of the Church:

a) the wide range of the two millennia, with a clear focus on the Canonical Sources which emerged in the first millennium, the millennium of the Canons' genesis, with introductory and historical prolegomena, as well as textual issues and critical issues of the canonical texts, in order then to study the canonical extensions and its implications contained in the following two general research aspects.

b) Issues of Canonical Tradition of the Church as (for instance):

1. The history of the printed editions of the Holy Canons (16th-20th centuries)
2. The Canonical Collections: *The Rudder* and the *Rallis-Potlis Constitution* (19th cent.) of the Orthodox Church and the post-Byzantine Hermeneutic
3. The ecclesiology and administrative nature of the Holy Canons

c) Issues of Canonical Hermeneutic in modern times such as (for instance):

1. Modern Church-canonical issues
2. State, Orthodox Church and Religious Affairs in Greece / Europe / Ecumene
3. Canon Law and International Politics

The Director of the Department of Canonical Theology Fr. Gregorios Papathomas was appointed by the above decision of the Board the Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies. He is a member of the Board of Directors, Professor of Theology, University of Athens and of the Institute of Orthodox Theology, "St. Sergius" Paris, President of the European Forum of Orthodox Theological Schools (EFOST), Dean of the Theological Seminary "St. Plato Tallinn" (Estonia), Member of the Editorial Board of the French Orthodox theological journals *Contacts* and

Le *Messenger Orthodoxe* (Paris) and the Estonian Orthodox journal *Usk Ja Elu* (Tallinn), Member of the Synodal Committee of the Inter-Orthodox and inter-Christian Relations, and Member of the Board of the Directors of The Inter-Orthodox Center of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece (Penteli).

#### 4) *Department of Interreligious Studies*

The Department of Interreligious Studies was established by the decision (14 / 25.08.2014) of the Board of the Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies.

This Department studies the multifaceted religious phenomena in its modern diverse manifestations (focusing on the most familiar to the Greek area monotheistic religions of Judaism and Islam) by using the findings of the religious studies research as it has developed internationally.

The importance of the study of the religious phenomenon is evident because religion constitutes a fundamental aspect of the human existence itself, interwoven with its very identity, and because religion has been diachronically exploited by various sides, so that the commonly so-called “return of religion” to the public space is often painted in dark colors. At a time which seems more or less dominated by intolerance and violence, the dialogue between the different religious traditions in the context of a serious scientific investigation into the place of religion in the public space can foster not only mutual knowledge but also contribute to the harmonious and peaceful coexistence of different people and traditions in the modern pluralistic world. Besides the above, the purpose of this Department will be to build on the long experience of cohabitation of the three monotheistic religions in the Mediterranean region and to initiate actions and tables of dialogue towards the promotion of reconciliation in contexts of religious otherness.

The Director of the Department of the Interreligious Studies Dr. Angeliki Ziaka was appointed by the above decision of the Board of the Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies and is a member of its Board, Assoc. Professor, Department of Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, lecturer at the Department of Political Sciences of the same University and at the Department of History and Ethnology of, Democritus University, Visiting Professor at the University of Timisoara (Romania) and University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, USA), member of the Scientific Committee for the Upgrading of the Religious Education of the teachers of Islam (Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs), a founding member and member of the Board of Directors of the *Scientific Association for Ibadism and Ibadi Studies*, a founding member and member of the Board of the Directors of the Scientific Society of Middle East Studies, and of the Board of the Editorial

Consults of the Orthodox Theology Editorial Series «Doxa & Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology» (WCC Publications, Geneva).

*5) Department of Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics*

This Department engages in the systematic study, recording, maintenance and exploitation of ecclesiastical monuments and relics (icons, wood carvings, manuscripts, miniature objects) both in the national as well as mainly in the local level.

The basic objectives of the current Department are the establishment of a specialized library for the promotion of research, the organization of a digital archive of recording of monuments-objects and digital photos, the museographical study and promotion of local collections of images-relics, the planning of cultural routes in the context of development of the religious tourism in the region, aiming to familiarize the local people with the Byzantine and post-Byzantine monuments of Magnesia, the undertaking of research and educational programs and the organization of scientific conferences in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, the university community and local municipal and regional authorities.

The Director of the Department of the Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics Mrs. Maria Nanou was appointed by the above decision of the Board the Directors of the Volos Academy. She has the following degrees: BA in Theology, University of Thessaloniki, MA in History of Byzantine Art, University of Sorbonne (Paris I-Panthéon-Sorbonne), PhD (cand.) at University of Thessaly.

The Volos Academy for Theological Studies examines the further expansion of its research areas and departments (Department of Philosophy and Patristic Theology, Ecumenical Theology, Theology and Psychological Sciences, Catechetical and Teaching of the Religious Subject etc.) in the future.

*Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, Orthodox Theology in the Twenty-first Century, Foreword by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, “Doxa & Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology” series, Geneva: WCC Publications, 2012*

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 & Fundamentalism –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 and 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)***

his 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 ȘI MODERNITATE, O INTRODUCERE***

Traducere din neogreacă de Florin-Cătălin Ghiț,  
Prefață de Radu Preda, Colecția Universitas, Seria Theologia  
Socialis 9, Eikon, Cluj-Napoca, 2010.

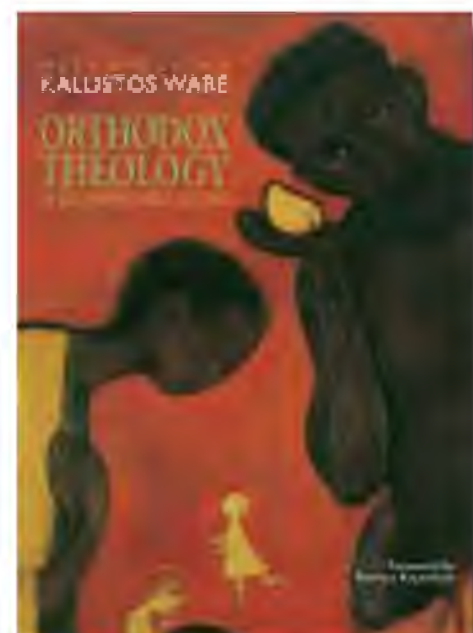
The Romanian translation of Pantelis Kalaitzidis’ book: *Orthodoxy and Modernity. Prolegomena* (Indiktos Publications, 2007)

## ***Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, Orthodox Theology in the twenty-first Century***

Foreword by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, “Doxa & Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology” series, Geneva: WCC Publications, 2012

Foreword by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, “Doxa & 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. Tsalamponi, 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.



*Church and Eschatology (collective work)*  
*Volos Academy Publications, (2nd edition)*  
*Volos, 2014*

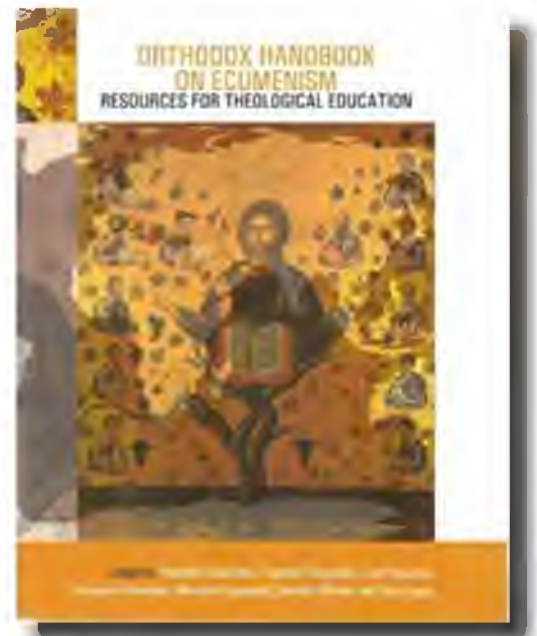
Identifying the Church with the “already,” the realized, and underestimating the eschatological dimension, the “not yet,” what has not yet realized, the vision of the coming Kingdom of God and the dynamic transformation and renovation of the universe is underestimated, for the sake of an ideological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



***Orthodox Handbook on Ecumenism: Resources for  
Theological Education***

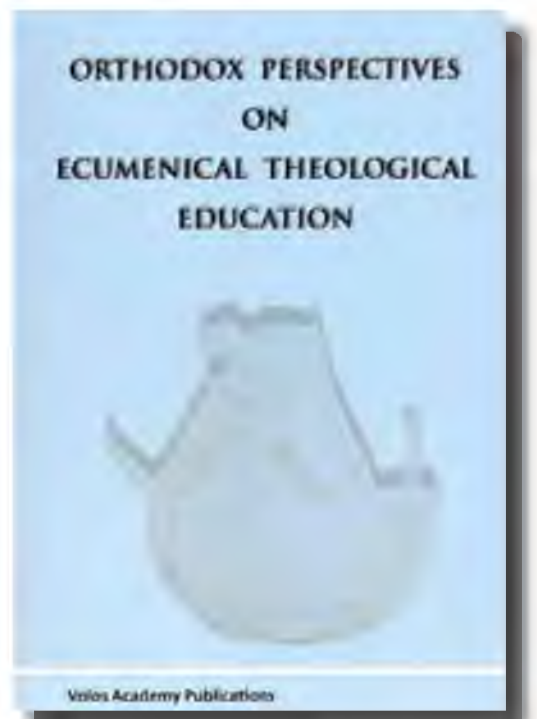
***Edited by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Thomas Fitzgerald, Cyril Hovorun, Aikaterini Pekridou, Nikolaos Asproulis, Dietrich Werner and Guy Liarge, Volos/Geneva/Oxford: Volos Academy Publications/WCC Publications/Regnum Books International, 2014***

The Orthodox Handbook on Ecumenism was initiated as a joint project of the Program 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.).



***Orthodox Perspectives on Ecumenical Theological education. The Ecumenical Movement in the Theological Education and in the Life of Orthodox Churches,***  
*Edited by Gennadios of Sassima, Laurentiu of Adreal, Pavel Aurel, Daniel Buda (Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2014)*

It is a collective volume in English, which contains the proceedings of the international conference entitled “The Ecumenical Movement in Theological Education and in the Life of the Orthodox Churches”. The conference took place from 9 to 12 November 2010 at the Theological Faculty of Sibiu, (Romania). Representatives from almost all the Orthodox Churches discuss how the ecumenical studies taught in individual Orthodox Churches and express their thoughts on the future of the ecumenical studies and the ecumenical perspective and witness of Orthodoxy.





***Spirituality, Power and Revolution: Contemporary Monasticism in Communist Ethiopia***

*by Joachim G. Persoon, with an Overview of the Orthodox Church during Communism, by Vaclav Jezek (Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2014)*

The present publication consists of two independent parts. The first and primary part is the work of Joachim G. Persoon, which deals with Communism in Ethiopia and its relation to the Ethiopian Tewahedo Orthodox Church. The second part was written as a kind of broader introduction to Persoon's book, and which serves the reader to contextualise the Orthodox Church within Communism and Communist ideology generally. It also offers insights into the dynamics which determined the interaction between the Orthodox Church and Communism in various countries of the Soviet bloc and elsewhere.



***“The bride is a flower ...”***

***Performed by: Yiannis Isoufis, Mitsaras Lazos, Thanassis Lavidas***

*Edited by: Vaggelis Bandelas, Costis Drygianakis*  
*(book with CD) Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2015*

Metropolis of Demetrias is deeply concerned about the problems of the gipsy youth of the region. In the framework of supporting their creativity, the above publication aims to publicize some lesser known aspects of the musical culture of Roma people, highlighting the diversity of the folk culture of contemporary Greece and thus promoting the mutual respect of the various communities. The CD consists of recordings made more than 20 years in the town of Sofades, capturing a repertory that gradually falls into oblivion and setting questions on notions as tradition, personal creativity, orality and modernity.





***Hymns of the Passion and the Resurrection from  
churches of Eastern Thessaly, Greece***

***από ναούς της ανατολικής Θεσσαλίας***

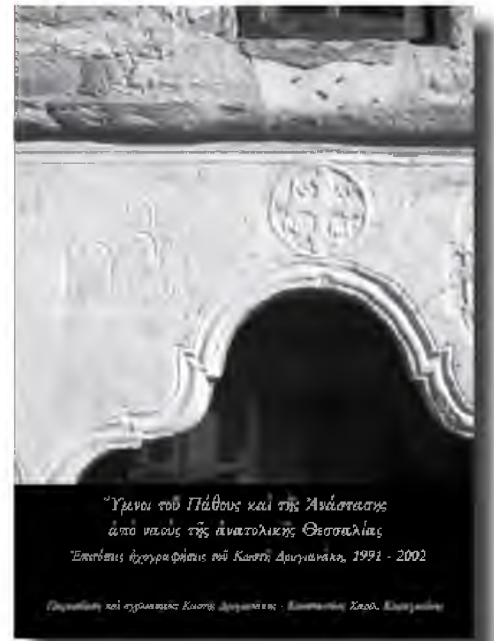
*Edited by: Costis Drygianakis,*

*Konstantinos Ch. Karagounis*

*(book with 2 CDs) (under English publication)*

*Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2014*

This publication consists of hymns, recorded in 50 churches and monasteries of the above region. Focusing on the periphery, it aims to bring out of invisibility the lesser known chanters. Thus, it makes a first step towards a deeper knowledge of the generally ignored folk stratum of Orthodox chanting; a stratum which has barely been studied in detail, in spite of the fact that it is frequently referred to as the corner stone of the Byzantine tradition. It also aims to shed some light to the aesthetics of worship, which has similarly been left out of the discussion during the last two centuries, when the researchers of Byzantine music sought for it a place in the modern world.



***Achievements and perspectives in the research of the  
art of Byzantine Chanting.***

***Dedicated to professor Gregory Th. Stathis***

*Edited by: Konstantinos Ch. Karagounis*

*Nektarios Panagopoulos Publications, Athens, 2014*

Proceedings of the Conference held in Volos, Greece, February 2012, in honor of Professor Gr. Stathis. Focusing on his activity as a researcher and as a teacher, the texts offered here trace the deeds but also sketch the possibilities that emerge today in the research of the Byzantine tradition of chanting, covering topics as theology, paleography, anthropology, liturgical theology etc. The book includes also the presentation of his composition *The Ladder of virtues*, based on texts of the book with the same name by St. John of Sinai.



*Jean Daniélou, Essay on the mystery of history, trans. Xenophon Komninos, Introduction, Nikolaos Asproulis, Series «In Dialogue - 1», Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2014*

The *Essay on the mystery of History* by Jean Daniélou is one of the most successful attempts of modern Roman Catholic theology to come to a fruitful dialogue with the surrounding reality of its era, proposing a coherent vision about the meaning of history which begins from and is based on the Christ-event. Despite the fact that it was written a long time ago (1953), this book is still quite relevant for contemporary Orthodox theology, both for its presuppositions (especially for them), and its diverse theses, to the extent that the latter always seemed to face with serious suspicion the bold historic interest and commitment of Western Christianity.



*Panayotis Trembelas: Between Tradition and Renewal, Between Academia and Mission, intro.-ed. Nikolaos Asproulis, «Theological Portraits-1», Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2015*

By the book series «Theological Portraits» the Volos Academy for Theological Studies aspires critically to run the most important milestones of Modern Greek theology, as it is reflected in the multilateral contribution of various eminent personalities. In this context, and after thirty years since the death of the well-known “lion of Orthodoxy” P. N. Trembelas, a first sober and mature attempt is made with this collective volume, towards an evaluation and assessment of various aspects of his thought and personality, by reflecting on critical questions related to issues such as biblical hermeneutics, liturgical renaissance, dogmatic theology, etc.





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*Contact Information:*

Tel. +30 24210. 93553, 93572, 93573

fax +30 24210. 77115

Mailing Address: P.O. 1308, Zip Code. 38001  
Volos, Greece

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