

POLITICAL
ORTHODOXY
AND TOTALI-
TARIANISM IN A
POST-COMMU-
NIST ERA

Program

INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE

CULTURAL CENTER Sofia
HELSINKI

MAY 28-31, 2015

Thursday 28, May, 2015

3.30-4.15: Registration

4.15-5.00: Opening-Greetings

1st session

Moderator: Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis

*Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University,
FWO Pegasus Short Marie Curie Research Fellow at KU Leuven, Greece/Belgium*

5.00-5.30: **Metropolitan of Helsinki Ambrosius**

"Demythologizing" of Nation in Finland

5.30-6.00: **Rev. Dr. Cyril Hovorun**, Research Fellow, Yale University, USA

Political Orthodoxy: Concept and Implications

6.00-6.30: **Dr. Ivana Noble**, Professor of Ecumenical Theology, Protestant Faculty of Theology, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Theology after totalitarian experience

6.30-7.00: Coffee - break

7.00-7.45: Discussion

8.00: Dinner

Friday 29, May, 2015

2nd session

Moderator: Elena Gorschkow-Salonranta

Advisor NGO, Member of the Council of the Orthodox Parish of Helsinki

9.00-9.30: **Dr. 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

9.30-10.00: **Dr. Michael Hjälm**, Dean of Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy, Sodertälje, Assistant Professor, Department of Theology, University of Uppsala, Sweden

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

10.00-10.30: **Dr. Davor Džalto**, Associate Professor, American University of Rome, Chairman of the Institute for the Study of Culture and Christianity, Belgrade, Italy/Serbia

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

10.30-11.15: Discussion

11.15-11.45: Coffee break

3rd session

Moderator: Dr. Assaad Elias Kattan

Professor, Chair of Orthodox Theology, University of Münster, Germany

11.45-12.15: **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)

The challenge of Pluralism in Orthodoxy

12.15-12.45: **Dr. Kristina Stoeckl**, Austrian Program for Advanced Research and Technology, Fellow of the Austrian Academy of Sciences at the University of Vienna, Department of Political Sciences

The Politics of Morality in the Russian Orthodox Church's approach to Human Rights

12.45-13.15: **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-Bolai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

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

13.15-14.00: Discussion

14.00: Lunch

4th session

Moderator: Dr. Ivana Noble

*Professor of Ecumenical Theology, Protestant Faculty of Theology,
Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic*

15.45-16.15: **Rev. Dr. Paul Gavriluk**, Professor, Aquinas Chair in Theology and Philosophy, Theology Department, St. Thomas University, USA

Russian Political Theology in Exile: Berdyaev, Bulgakov, and the Eurasians

16.15-16.45: **Nikolaos Asproulis**, MTh, 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

16.45-17.15: Discussion

17.15-17.45: Coffee-break

5th session

Moderator: Dr. Alexei Bodrov

Rector, St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute, Moscow, Russia

17.45-18.15: **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

18.15-18.45: **Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou**, Archbishop Demetrios Professor in Orthodox Theology and Culture, Co-Founder Orthodox Christian Studies Center, Fordham University, New York, USA

Orthodox Liberalism and Secularism: Overcoming Political Nestorianism

18.45-19.15: **Dr. Lucian Leustan**, Aston University, Birmingham, and Senior Fellow, Transatlantic Academy, Washington DC, United Kingdom/USA

Eastern Christianity and the Liberal International Order

19.15-20.00: Discussion

20.00: Dinner

Saturday, May, 30

6th session

Moderator: Rev. Heikki Huttunen

General Secretary, Finnish Ecumenical Council, Orthodox Church of Finland, Helsinki

9.00-9.30: **Dr. Vera Shevzov**, Professor of Religious Studies, Smith College, USA

The Concept of “Russian World”: Its Evolution in the Post-Soviet Orthodox Context

9.30-10.00: **Rev. Dr. Nicholas Denysenko**, Assistant Professor, Department of Theology, Loyola University Marymount, USA

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

10.00-10.30: **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

10.30-11.15: Discussion

11.15-11.45: Coffee Break

7th session

Moderator: Dr. Davor Džalto

*Associate Professor, American University of Rome,
Chairman of the Institute for the Study of Culture and Christianity, Belgrade, Italy/Serbia*

11.45-12.15: **Dr. Alexei Bodrov**, Rector, St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute, Moscow, Russia
Orthodoxy, Islam and State in post-Communist Russia

12.15-12.45: **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

12.45-13.15: **Dr. Krastu Banev**, Department of Religion and Theology, Durham University, U.K.

Bulgarian Orthodoxy facing the challenges of the post-communist era

13.15-14.00: Discussion

14.00: Lunch

8th Session

Moderator: Dr. Michael Hjälml

Dean of Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy, Sodertälje, Assistant Professor,

Department of Theology, University of Uppsala, Sweden

15.45-16.15: **Dr. Samir Morcos**, Member to the National Council for Human Rights and of the Norwegian Academy for Arts and freedom of expression, Cairo, Egypt

Church state society: the case of Egypt

16.15-16.45: **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”

16.45-17.15: Discussion

17.15-17.45: Coffee-break

9th Session

Moderator: Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou

Archbishop Demetrios Professor in Orthodox Theology and Culture,

Co-Founder Orthodox Christian Studies Center, Fordham University, New York, USA

17.45-18.15: **Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis**, Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, FWO Pegasus Short Marie Curie Research Fellow at KU Leuven, Greece/Belgium

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

18.15-18.45: **Rev. Dr. Grigorios 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

18.45-19.15: Discussion

19.15-20.00: Ecumenical Observers

20.00: Dinner

Sunday, May, 31

10.00-12.30: D. Liturgy at Uspenski Cathedral of Helsinki

12.30-13.30: Branch - Conclusion at Uspenski Cathedral of Helsinki

14.00-16.30: City tour

The Conference has been organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, 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), the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels), and the Cultural Center Sophia, with the support of the Orthodox Metropolis of Helsinki.