

Volos Academy for Theological Studies

RESEARCH CENTER

Academic Year 2017 - 2018

Orthodoxy and Fundamentalism

Program and Parallel Events

Orthodoxy and Fundamentalism

Over the last few years a new tension has arisen caused by the radicalization of religious phenomena around the world, which has found expression in varying forms, ranging from mild conservatism or dynamic traditionalism to extreme forms of fundamentalism, fanaticism, and outright intolerance. At the same time the Orthodox Church and its theology has encountered the various challenges of the modern or late modern world by increasingly recognizing the need to deal with this most urgent issue, especially in the wake of the Holy and Great Synod convened in Crete in June 2016. At this Synod, Orthodoxy, despite facing its own internal difficulties which are directly or indirectly connected with fundamentalism, attempted to witness the truth of Christ, and to articulate a message of unity and hope in a world dominated by hatred, fanaticism, and the rise of nationalism, as well as brutality, the dominance of populism, the lack of tolerance towards the other, but also poverty, social injustice, limitation of human rights, the weakening of democratic values, lack of respect for the environment, and so on . These and other challenges, that theology is called upon to face in the 21st century, seem unpredictable in relation to the historical past, a fact that often makes this dialogue extremely difficult by triggering conflicting reactions.

Faced with these challenges of the current worldview, Orthodoxy persistently seems to be unable to face up to the circumstances. Committed as it is, often in a static manner, to its rich patristic tradition, it appears that the majority of theologians or the official institutional representatives from all the so-called traditional Orthodox lands, particularly in Eastern Europe, express not only a fundamentalist understanding and interpretation of the historical past but also of the surrounding atmosphere, expressing





themselves in a way that is inconsistent with the ecclesial way of existence. Although any critical attitude towards the achievements of modernity, democracy, human rights or the surrounding reality, characterized by a pluralism of views, ideas, cultures and religions, should not be characterized as fundamentalism by definition, particular features of it, as have been accurately defined by modern scholarship, can describe and, above all, justify the existence of a clear, though not always distinct, current of an “orthodox fundamentalism.”

Therefore, the reaction to the supposed (or often real) risk of marginalization of religion from the public sphere in the aftermath of the slow but inevitable process of secularization and modernization of traditional societies, where Orthodoxy for centuries dominated not only the field of religion but was also close to political power, seems to characterize the wider movement of fundamentalism, which has recently emerged in a dynamic way in “orthodox” settings. From this perspective, new conspiracy theories constantly emerge to justify the need for resistance, if not attack, at the risk of alienating life, the downgrading of the “traditional values” and the ethos of Orthodox nations and societies. However, for this struggle to gain an ideological background, a selective use of the rich tradition, or in particular the Fathers of the Church, is often required, transforming them into an instrument of confessional constructions that do not correspond to historical facts. Furthermore, a “moral manichaeism” (the fact that the world generally lies in the dark as opposed to the monastic and other religious communities experiencing the divine grace in purity), as well as the “infallible character” in the confession of faith (as expressed with regards to certain Fathers of the Church, and modern spiritual elders of monastic communities) contribute together with a necessary dose of apocalypticism (for the imminent destruction of the world, as a sort of punishment by God because of the sin that dominates the de-

Christianized Western world in opposition to the “traditional values” of the Orthodox East) to the formation of a strong international “pan-orthodox fundamentalist current” which tends to dominate the ecclesiastical and theological scene, preventing the witness of the Gospel and the salvific mission of the Church in the modern world.

Can the Church with its theology, as its prophetic voice, resist and overturn this present situation? Without ever abandoning its rich tradition, Orthodoxy is called upon to go out into the world without fearful reflexes, repeating what the Fathers of the Church have done for centuries contextualising and inculturating the Gospel in their era. Following this dialogical patristic ethos and the hermeneutical approach to the historical truth, orthodox theology is today called upon to update its message without changing its faith or becoming entrapped in itself, constantly seeking to flee backwards to a glorious past, irrelevant to the present reality. In the context of late modernity, the Church and its theology have been called upon to both bravely and effectively address the challenges posed by the rapid development of the sciences, the gradual dominance of anti-democratic perceptions and practices, the marginalization of the weak of the world, by implementing in practice the sacrificial ethos being taught by its Lord Jesus Christ, in the perspective of the coming Kingdom of God, who will ultimately judge the truth of beings and history. In the light of the biblical and patristic tradition, any trace of fundamentalism, contrary to the continuous incarnation of the Gospel in the world and its history, the opening and the response of the Church to every other, can only be rejected as an expression of both an anti-Christian spirit in general and, in particular, an anti-Orthodox morality.

It is in this spirit that the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, abiding by the tradition of critical reflection on timely theological topics, has organized its activities for the current academic year 2017-8. A series of events, lectures, book presentations, meetings and conferences have been organized in cooperation with other Orthodox and ecumenical bodies, institutes and seminaries.





A. EVENTS - LECTURES - BOOK PRESENTATIONS

1. «Theology in Dialogue»: Presentation of the work and the general publication program of the Volos Academy Publications

A. Wednesday April 18, 2018, Forum Conference Center (9 Deligiorgi str., Volos), 7.00 p.m.

Speakers:

Dr. Anita Prassa, Head of the Prefecture of Magnesia General State Archives

Dr. Dimitris Kirtatas, Professor, University of Thessalia

Dr. Dimitris Baltas

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

Greeting address by the Metropolitan of Demetrias **Ignatius**

Chair: **Thanasis Chr. Samaras**, former Director of the Newspaper, “Thessalia”

B. Thursday April 19, 2018, French Institute in Larissa, (28 Kouma str., Larissa), 7.30 p.m.

Speakers:

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

Thomas Psiros, Philologist, Writer

Christos Papanikolaou, Artist

Vaso Gogou and **Apostolos Barlos** Adult Trainers, Training Team for Teachers of Religious Education of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Greeting address by **Mrs. Chrysa Voulgaraki**, Director of French Institute in Larissa

Chair: **Yannis Yannakopoulos**, Journalist.

The event will be musically covered by: Nikos Nikolaidis (cello) - Therimachos Pakas (voice), Matthaïos Rizos (guitar) - Cyra Saplaidou (flute)



2. A meeting featuring the dialogue between Theology and Psychology

Narcissism and Self-empowerment in social networks

Saturday April 28, 2018, Forum Conference Center (9 Deligiorgi str., Volos), 7.30 p.m.

Speakers:

Rev. Dr. Vasileios Thermos, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Assistant Professor, Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens

Georgios Kissas, Psychologist - Psychotherapist

The meeting is organized in cooperation with the charitable company “Health Path” and the Youth association of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias

3. Book launch of the collective volume *Templon, Holy Forms, Invisible Gates of Faith, 20th and 21st century*, of the published by the Aikaterini Laskarides foundation and the homonym exhibition at the Thessaloniki Museum of Byzantine Culture

Monday, May 14, 2018, Art Center “Giorgio de Cirico” 3, Metamorfoseos str., Volos, 7.30 p.m.

Round Table participants:

Maria Nanou, MA in History of Byzantine Art, Director of the Department of Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics

Christos Margarites, Production Engineer, National Technical University of Athens, Storyteller, Editor of the volume, MVN Consultants

Alexandros G. Makres, Economist and Art Collector, MVN Consultants

The meeting is chaired by Dr. Chrysa Drantakes, Directorate of Culture, Cultural Department of the Municipality of Volos

The meeting is organized by the Department of Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics of the Volos Academy, in cooperation with the Municipality of Volos (Cultural Department) and the MVN Consultants (Cultural Events Organizer in Greece and abroad)

4. Christianity in the West's Secular Age

Lecture

Speaker: Charles Taylor, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy, McGill University, Canada

Athens, June 11, 2018, Athens Concern Hall, 7.30 p.m.

Charles Taylor's lecture will be given in English with simultaneous translation in Greek language

The event is organized in cooperation with Megaron Plus

For more information please visit the acadimia.org

5. The Reconstitution of the Institution of Female Diaconate and the Orthodox Mission of the Patriarchate of Alexandria in Africa

Speaker: Metropolitan of Nigeria Alexandros

For more information please visit the acadimia.org

September - December 2018

1. Book launch of the collective volume, *Personhood, Eucharist and the Kingdom of God in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective: Synaxis Eucharistias in Honor of Metropolitan John D. Zizioulas of Pergamon*, edited by Pantelis Kalaitzidis and Nikolaos Asproulis, Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2016

The place and time of the event will be announced later on acadimia.org

2. Public lecture by the Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware) of Diokleia on the occasion of the publication of the Proceedings of the International Conference held in Volos (November 2015) on the general theme: "Metropolitan Kallistos Ware and the Witness of Orthodoxy in the West" for his reception as a Fellow of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

The event is co-organized with the Publishing House En Plo

The place and time of the event will be announced later on acadimia.org.



B. CONFERENCES

1. Eastern Orthodoxy and Inter-Religious Encounter in a Secular Age International Conference

September 15-16, 2017, Thessalia Conference Center, Melissatika, Volos

Opening: September 15, 2017, 5.30 p.m.

Speakers:

Rev. Dr. **Andrew Louth**, Professor Emeritus of Patristic and Byzantine Studies Durham University (United Kingdom), Honorary Fellow, Faculty of Theology, Vrije Universiteit (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Philip Sherrard: An Orthodox Approach to Christianity and the World Religions

Rev. Dr. **Emmanuel Clapsis**, Archbishop Iakovos Professor, Holy Cross Greek-Orthodox School of Theology (Boston, USA)

The Dynamics of Inter-Religious Dialogue

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

Eastern Orthodoxy and Inter-Faith Dialogue in a Secular Age

Paul Ladouceur, Professor, Orthodox School of Theology, Trinity College, University of Toronto (Canada)

Religious Diversity in Modern Orthodox Thought

Dr. Brandon Gallaher, Lecturer of Systematic and Comparative Theology, Exeter University (United Kingdom)

The Word, the Words and the Trinity: An Eastern Orthodox Theology of Religions

Dr. Athanasios N. Papathanasiou, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, Editor in Chief of the theological journal *Synaxis*

Comparative Theology and the Orthodox: An inquiry into the tension between faith and the religious other, differences and dichotomies

Dr. Angeliki Ziaka, Associate Professor, University of Thessaloniki

Interreligious Dialogue in times of adversity: Christian and Muslim responsibility

Dr. Julia Konstantinovskiy, Tutor, School of Theology, Oxford University (United Kingdom)

Christianity and 'religions': some Orthodox perspectives on dual belonging and inter-religious contacts

Rev. **Tikhon Vasilyev**, PhD Candidate, Wolfson College, Oxford University (United Kingdom)

Christian dialogue with Taoism in the works of Bishop Nikolai Velimirovich, Father Alexander Men and Hieromonk Damascene

Dr. **Marko Vilotić**, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Belgrade (Serbia); Member of the Steering Committee, Center for Philosophy and Theology (Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Prolegomena for an Affirmative Orthodox Theology of Religions

Dr. Nikolaos Asproulis, Deputy Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies

World Ecclesiology: Towards an Orthodox Theology of Religions

More information will be announced in the near future at the acadimia.org

The conference is organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the School of Theology and Religious Studies of the Exeter University (United Kingdom)

2. What is the future of Europe

Regional Pre-Assembly Consultation of the Conference of European Churches (CEC)

October, 4 - 6, 2017, Volos

Key-note speakers:

Dr. Michalis Zoumboulakis, President and Professor of the School of Economic Sciences, University of Thessaly (Volos)

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

Greetings:

Bishop Christopher Hill, CEC President (Church of England)

Metropolitan Emmanuel of France (Ecumenical Patriarchate), CEC Vice-President

Metropolitan Ignatius of Demetrias (Chairman, Volos Academy for Theological Studies)

Rev. Meletis Meletiades (President of the Evangelical Church of Greece)

Pantelis Kalaitzidis (Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies),

The Round table discussion dedicated to the problems of the local setting included:

Metropolitan Ignatius of Demetrias (Chairman, Volos Academy for Theological Studies)

Despina Tsianou (Medical Doctor, Holy Metropolis of Demetrias)

Maria Koutatzi (Caritas Hellas)

The meeting is organized in cooperation with the Conference of European Churches, the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias, and the Evangelical Church of Volos.



3. Participation of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in the 1st International Conference of the European Academy of Religion March, 5-8, 2018, Bologna, Italy



EUROPEAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION

Round tables:

A. *Ecumenism in Transition: A Paradigm Shift from the Vision of Christian Unity to the Realism of Christian Cooperation*

Tuesday, March 6, 2018, Fscire, 116, Sala 1, 1.30 - 3.30 p.m.

Panelists:

Dr. Gerard Mannion (Professor, Georgetown University)

Dr. Aila Marjatta Lauha (Professor, University of Helsinki, CEC Governing Board Member)

Giorgos Vlantis (Director, Council of Christian Churches)

Vr. Rev. Anders Gaadegaard (Dean of the Copenhagen Cathedral, Chairman of the Danish National Council of Churches)

Dr. Julija Vidovic (Institut Catholique de Paris, CEC Governing Board Member)

Chair: **Pantelis Kalaitzidis** (Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University, Research Fellow, KU Leuven)

The Panel is organized in cooperation with the Conference of European Churches (CEC)

B. *Is the Christian understanding of the personhood of God too anthropomorphic? An Eastern Orthodox contribution*

Wednesday, March 7, 2018, Aemilia Hotel, Sala Felsina, 10.30 - 12.30

Panelists:

Dr. Nikolaos Asproulis (Deputy Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University), *Orthodox theology and analytic philosophy: An uneasy relationship?*

Dr. Stelios Virvidakis (Professor, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens), *Analytic accounts of personhood. An ethical perspective*



Dr. Brandon Gallaher (Lecturer, University of Exeter), *An Orthodox theological account of analytic philosophy*

The panel is organized in cooperation with the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Athens (Greece) and the Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Exeter (UK)

C. *The Orthodox Tradition and the Imperative of Reform*

Thursday, March 8, 2018, Aemilia Hotel, Sala Felsina, 10.30-12.30 & 13.30-15.30 p.m.

Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis (Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University, Research Fellow, KU Leuven)

Dr. Michael Hjälm (Dean, Sankt Ignatius Orthodox Academy, Stockholm, Assistant Professor, Stockholm School of Theology)

Dr. Alberto Melloni (Founder, European Academy of Religion, General Secretary, *La Fondazione per le scienze religiose Giovanni XXIII*)

Dr. Petre Maican (University of Aberdeen, UK)

Nikolaos Kouremenos (Lecturer, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Academic Associate, Volos Academy for Theological Studies)

The panel is organized in cooperation with Sankt Ignatios Orthodox Academy



Participation of Volos Academy's associates in different panels:

D. *Eastern Christianity and Interreligious Dialogue: the Road Not taken?*

Monday, March 5, 2017, Fscire, 116, Sala 1, 15.45-17.45 p.m.

Panelists:

Dr. Thomas Cattoi, Professor, Santa Clara University (U.S.A.)

Dr. Brandon Gallaher, Lecturer of Systematic and Comparative Theology, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Exeter (U.K.)

Dr. Aggeliki Ziaka, Associate Professor, University of Thessaloniki, Member, Board of Directors, Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Dr. Stylianos Papalexandropoulos, Professor, School of Theology, University of Athens

Dr. Athanasios N. Papathanasiou, Lecturer, Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens,
Chief in Editor of the journal *Synaxis*

*The panel is organized in cooperation with Santa Clara University (U.S.A.) and the
Department of Theology and Religious Studies of the University of Exeter (U.K.)*

E. Author Meets Critique: What is Political Islam?

Book launch

March 6, 2018, Aemilia Hotel, Piazza, 11.30-12.30

Panelists:

Dr. Nicholas Adams, University of Birmingham (U.K.)

Dr. Hisham Hellyer, Atlantic Council's RH Centre for the Middle East

Aggeliki Ziaka, Associate Professor, University of Thessaloniki,
Member, Board of Directors, Volos Academy for Theological
Studies

*F. Pneumatology Beyond Polemics: XX Century Eastern and
Western Doctrines of the Holy Spirit in Dialogue*

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018, Aemilia Hotel, Sala Bibiena, 15.45-
17.45 p.m.**

Panelists:

Dr. Pablo Arteaga, Pontificia Pontificia Università Gregoriana
(Italy)

Dr. Nikolaos Asproulis, Deputy Director, Volos Academy for
Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University.

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

Dr. Viorel Coman, Research Fellow, KU Leuven (Belgium)

Dr. Jos Moons, University of Tilburg





4. International Conference on: “Orthodoxy and Fundamentalism”

May, 10-12, 2018, Belgrade, Serbia

Speakers:

Bishop Jovan Ćulibrk, of Pakrac and Slavonia, Serbian Orthodox Church

Dr. Tarek Mitri, Professor, American University of Beirut, Lebanon, former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lebanon

Conservatism, Fundamentalism and Identity Politics in the Arab world

Dr. George Demacopoulos, Professor, John Meyendorff Chair of Theology, Fordham University, Co-Director, Center for Orthodox Christian Studies, Fordham University, New York, USA

The Recent Invention of "Traditional" Orthodoxy

Dr. Frances Kostarelos, Anthropology and Sociology Program, Governor's State University Illinois (U.S.A.)

Conflicting Greek Orthodox Christian Discourses on Fundamentalism and Fragmenting Greek Orthodox Church Institutions in the United States

Dr. Anastasia Mitrofanova, Russian Orthodox University, Professor at the Russian State University for the Humanities (RGGU)

Fundamentalism in the Ideology and Practice of the Orthodox Political Movements in Contemporary Russia

Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University, Research Fellow KU Leuven

Eschatology and Fundamentalism

Dr. Petre Maican, University of Aberdeen, (U.K.)

Giving the Laity its Voice Back: One Way to Tackle Fundamentalism in the Eastern Orthodox Church

Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou, Professor, Archbishop Demetrios Chair of Theology, Fordham University, Co-Director, Center for Orthodox Christian Studies, Fordham University, New York, USA

Pluralism, Secularism and Fundamentalism

Rev. Dr. Vladan Perišić, Professor, School of Theology, University of Belgrade, Serbia, Director, Center for Theology and Philosophy (Trebinje, Bosnia-Herzegovina)

Theoretical Presuppositions of Christian Fundamentalism

Dr. Katerina Bauer, Assistant Professor, University of Prague, (Czech Republic)

Two Examples of Non-Fundamentalist but Rooted Spirituality: Mother Maria Skobstova and Alexander Men

Dr. Sergei Chapnin, Fellow at the University of Innsbruck, Austria, Former Editor of the Magazine of the Moscow Patriarchate (Russia)

Matilda & Matilding: The Rise and Fall of the Radical Orthodox Fundamentalists in Russia

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

The Notion of Orthodoxy as the Sole True Faith: A Particular Source of Orthodox Christian Rigorism

Dr. Haralambos Ventis, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Theology, School of Theology, University of Athens

Fundamentalism in the Orthodox Church: Intrinsic or Transient?

Katerina Pekridou, Theological Dialogue Secretary, Conference of European Churches (Brussels, Belgium)

Fundamentalism at Ecumenism

Dr. Brandon Gallaher, Lecturer of Systematic and Comparative Theology, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Exeter (U.K.)

Conversion to Orthodoxy in North America and Orthodox Fundamentalism: A Personal View



Rev. Dr. Christoph d'Aloisio, Institut de théologie orthodoxe St. Jean le théologien (Brussels, Belgium)

Fundamentalist Hermeneutics as a Risk in Education

Dr. Petar Jevremović, University of Belgrade (Serbia)

Epistemology of the Radicalized Faith

Rev. Dr. Demetrios Bathrellos, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University, Visiting Professor, Institute of Orthodox Christian Studies (Cambridge, U.K.), Member, Board of Directors, Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Roots of Orthodox anti-Western Fundamentalism in the Church of Greece

Rev. Dr. Vasileios Thermos, Child and Adult Psychiatrist, Assistant Professor, Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens

Fundamentalism: Theology in the Service of Psychosis

Dr. Pedrag Dragutinović, University of Belgrade (Serbia)



Reading Without Interpretation? Fundamentalism and Biblical Hermeneutics

Dr. Davor Džalto, President, Center for the Study of Culture and Christianity (Belgrade, Serbia), Assistant Professor, American University of Rome (Italy)

How to be the Right Kind of “Fundamentalist”?

The conference is organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the Institute for the Study of Culture and Christianity (Belgrade, Serbia); the Orthodox Christian Studies Center of Fordham University (New York, USA); the Chair of Orthodox Theology of Münster University (Germany); the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER, Cluj-Napoca, Romania); St Andrews Biblical Theological Institute (Moscow); Sankt Ignatios Orthodox Theological Academy (Stockholm, Sweden); the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Bruxelles), and the Center for Philosophy and Theology (Trebinje, Bosnia-Herzegovina), with the support of Dom omladine Beograda (Belgrade, Serbia).

5. 3rd International Musicological and Psaltic Conference on Psaltic Art

«...ἐν ἐπιγνώσει ὑμνοῦντας Σε...» (=chanting consciously in praise to Thee)

Prerequisites and Skills for Sacred Chanting in Orthodox Worship

Wednesday, May 30 (evening) - Saturday, June 2 (afternoon), 2018

“Thessaly” Conference Center - Melissatika, Volos, Greece

The **official opening of the Conference** will be devoted to the composing and researching work of the “Archon Mousicodidaskalos (Leading Music Teacher) of the Great Church of Christ”, Protopsaltis **Kyriazis (Zachos) Nikoleris**.

The Scientific Committee of the Conference consists of the following professors:

- **Thomas Apostolopoulos**, National and Kapodistiran University of Athens, president
- **Emmanouil Giannopoulos**, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
- **Michail Stroumbakis**, Supreme Patriarchal Ecclesiastical Academy of Crete,
- **Kosntantinos Ch. Karagounis**, Supreme Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens – Department of Psaltic Art of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies.

The Conference is organized by the Department of Psaltic Art and Musicology.



September - December 2018

1. Bible, Churches and Spirituality in a (non?) secular world?,

September, 26-27, 2018

Stellenbosch (near to Cape Town), S. Africa

The conference is organized in cooperation with the Discipline of Christian Spirituality at the University of South Africa - UNISA)

For more information, please visit acadimia.org

2. International Conference about the refugee crisis along the Balkan route

As it is well known, the European migrant and refugee crisis began in 2015, when a rising number of refugees and migrants made the journey to European Union to seek asylum, traveling across the Mediterranean Sea or through Southeast Europe and especially through Greece. The conference seeks to explore the theological and ethical parameters of the issue and the role of the major religious traditions towards the overcoming of this humanitarian crisis.

The time and the program of the conference will be announced in the near future on acadimia.org



C. SEMINARS

1. Ibadism: Understanding Diversity within Islam

International Summer School

3-10 September, 2017, Thessalia Conference Center, Melissatika, Volos

Speakers (Professors and Students):

Dr. Ersilia Francesca, Prof. University of Naples (Italy)

Early Development of Ibadi Law and Jurisprudence,

Bianca Elena Grimaldi, *An Analysis of the Oriental Berber Dialects in Libya*

Valentina Schiattarella, *An overview on the Berber Oasis of Siwa (Egypt)*

Dr. Anna Maria Di Tolla, Prof. University of Naples (Italy)

Berber Ibadism in North Africa. From political legitimacy to a specific identity

Salah Bahmani, *Maghrebian Ibadism in the Middle Ages*

Luca Bartoli, *Berber Ibadi nationalism in the Colonial North Africa*

Oussama Bouffrikha, *Contesting Spaces: Ibadis in M'zab from an anthropological perspective*

Dr. Aggeliki Ziaka, Associate Professor, School of Theology, University of Thessaloniki, Member, Board of Directors, Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Ibadism. Theology, Pluralism, Understanding

Dr. Wolfram Reiss, Professor, University of Vienna (Austria)

Education in Oman

Marco Jovanovic, *The Ibadi Imamate Tradition*

Dr. Gerasimos Makris, Professor, Panteion University of Athens

Mystical Traditions in Islam

Gacem ben Yahiaten, *Ibadi Doctrine in Contemporary Djerba*

Ioannis Mylonelis, *Balkans and Mystical Traditions in Islam. The case of Riffai*

Vassiliki Keramida, *Muslim Communities in the city of Athens*

Sheikh Ziyad Al Mawali, College of Islamic Law, Muscat

The College of Islamic Law in Oman

The International Summer School is organized by the Department of Religious Studies of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the School of Theology of the University of Thessaloniki and the Università Degli Studi Di Napoli, L' Orientale



2. What theology has to offer to strict sciences sciences?

November, 25, 2017, Thessalia Conference Center, Melissatika, Volos

Speakers:

Dr. Nikos Prantzios (Paris Institute of Astrophysics)

Cosmology and Dialectical Materialism: The Problem of the Relationship between Science and Philosophy

Dr. Nikolaos Asproulis (Deputy Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer, Hellenic Open University)

“Being as Communion:” Relational Ontology as a common language of theology and modern physics

Dr. Evdoxia Delli (Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation)

Scientific thought, theological discourse: two incompatible languages?

Dr. Haralambos Ventis (Assistant Professor, Department of Social Theology, Faculty of Theology, University of Athens)

Does Orthodox theology have a reason to exist in the post-Copernican era?

Vaggelis Koutalis (Institute of Historical Research, National Hellenic Research Foundation)

Experimental philosophy, modernity and Eastern Christianity: the cases of Meletios Mitros (1661-1714) and Thomas Mandakasis (1709-1796)

Dr. Argyris Nikolaidis (former Professor, Polytechnical School, University of Thessaloniki)

Contemporary Science - Orthodox Christian Tradition: The Unfinished Meeting

Dr. Nikolaos Loudovikos (Professor, Higher Ecclesiastical Academy of Thessaloniki, Institute of Orthodox Christian Studies, Cambridge)

Theological evaluation of Scientific Eschatology

The conference is jointly organized with Program “Science and Orthodoxy around the World” of the National Hellenic Research Foundation

The conference is kindly sponsored by the Templeton Foundation



3. Contemporary Spirituality and Philosophy of Religion: A comment on John Cottingham’s work

Friday, January 19, 2018, Athens

School of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences of The National Technical University of Athens, **Athens, 4-8 p.m.**

Round Table panelists include:

Dr. John Cottingham, Professor Emeritus, University of Reading (U.K.)

Dr. Byron Kaldis, Professor of Philosophy, School of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences of The National Technical University of Athens

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

Dr. Haralambos Ventis, Assistant Professor, Department of Social Theology, University of Athens

The Seminar is organized in cooperation with the School of Applied Mathematical and Physical Sciences of The National Technical University of Athens



4. Is the understanding of the personhood of God too anthropomorphic? An Orthodox contribution

International Project of analytic philosophy and theology organized in cooperation with the Institute of Christian Philosophy of the Innsbruck University (Austria - Institut für Christliche Philosophie Universität Innsbruck), and lasting from October 2016 until January 2018. The project is part of the Analytic Theology Cluster Initiative: “Concepts of God” hosted by the same Institute.

Participants:

October 22, 2016: Dr. Nikolaos Asproulis (Volos Academy for Theological Studies):
“Causal Trinitarianism”: A solution to the ‘logical problem of the Trinity’?

November 5, 2016: Richard Swinburne, Professor Emeritus, Oxford University
The Social Theory of the Trinity - Respondent: Dr. **Michalis Filippou**

December 10, 2016: Dr. Michalis Filippou
The Doctrine of Trinity and the Metaphysics of Material Constitution

February 11, 2017: Rev. Dr. Dimitrios Bathrellos, Tutor, Hellenic Open University, Visiting Professor, Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies (Cambridge) (Greece, United Kingdom)
The Theology of Eneypostaton, the Overcoming of the Ambiguities of Chalcedon, and the “Redefinition” of Hypostasis - Respondent: Dr. **Dionysios Skliris**

March 11, 2017: Dr. William Hasker, Professor Emeritus, Huntington University, (USA)
A Compositional Christology

April 22, 2017: Dr. Stelios Virvidakis, Professor, Department of Philosophy and History of Science, University of Athens
Personhood, immortality and resurrection – Respondent: Dr. **Haralambos Ventis**, Assistant Professor, School of Theology, University of Athens

May 27, 2017: Dr. Terrence Cuneo, Professor, Vermont University, (USA)
Analytic philosophy and Eastern theology

June 24, 2017: External Speaker I: Metropolitan John D. Zizioulas of Pergamon
The relationship between analytic philosophy and Orthodoxy. Is it legitimate and valuable or a crude blasphemy? A theological point of view

July 2017: A workshop with the participation of graduate Students (University of Athens) and young (PhD students, or PostDoc) Scholars interesting in analytic philosophy and theology.

September 23, 2017: Dr. Bryan Leftow, Professor, Oxford University
Trinitarian Theology (title to be confirmed) – respondent: Dr. **Michalis Filippou**,

December 16, 2017: Rev. Isidoros Katsos, PhD Candidate, Cambridge University (United Kingdom) - Respondent: **Rev. Alexandros Chouliaras**, PhD student, Vrije Universiteit (The Netherlands)

What does it mean to be 'human' and how to say it? The conundrum of the Imago Dei tradition of the Eastern Church Fathers

January 20, 2018: External Speaker 2: Dr. **John Cottingham**, Professor Emeritus, Reading University (USA)

The relationship between analytic philosophy and Orthodoxy. Is it legitimate and valuable or a crude blasphemy? A philosophical point of view – Respondent: Dr. Michalis Pangalos

March 17, 2018 External Speaker II: **Dr. Michalis Paraskevopoulos** (University of Athens): *The relationship between analytic philosophy and Orthodoxy. Wittgenstein and Orthodox theology. A theological point of view)*

June, 2018 (date to be confirmed): Speaker: **Professor Dr. Byron Kaldis** (The National Technical University of Athens): *Ressurrection (bodily?)* - Respondent: Dr. **Sophia Illiopoulou**

June 2018 (date to be confirmed): A Concluding *Seminar* discussing the overall merits from analytic philosophy and theology for the Orthodox Tradition and a meeting evaluating and summarizing the work and goals achieved by the research project with the participation of the most of the Cluster Group members as well as scholars interesting in analytic philosophy or philosophy and theology in general.

The official language of the program is English (and Greek).

For more information about the scope of the program, the participants and the schedule please visit the official website of the program at:

<http://www.volos-analytictheology2016.org/>

Registration is required for this seminar; please send a brief CV to the Secretariat of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies Mrs. Valila Giannoutaki (giannoutaki@acadimia.org ή info@acadimia.org) and to Dr. Nikolaos Asproulis (asprou@acadimia.org).

A priority order will be in place due to the limited seats.

Those who enroll in the program will be informed in advance about the venue and the time of the meetings by e-mail, and a follow-up certification will be issued after completion of the program.



5. Training Seminars of Primary and Secondary Level Education Teachers for the New Curriculum of the Religious Education



Thessalia Conference Center, Melissatika, Volos

A. Primary Education

The New Curriculum for the Religious Subject of the Primary School

Teacher's Training

- Third Grade, November 30, 2017
- Fourth and Fifth Grade, December 12, 2017
- Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade, March 12, 2018
- Sixth Grade, March 27, 2018

B. Secondary Education

1. February 12, 2018: Thessalia Conference Center, Melissatika, Volos, **9.00 a.m.**

The New Curriculum for the Religious Subject and the exploitation of the Course Folder in Gymnasium and Lyceum.

Participants:

Dr. Stratis Psaltou, Counselor of Theologians, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

Photini Stalika, School Counselor of Theologians, Regional Directorate of Education in Thessaly and Sterea Hellas



And the members of the Training Team for Teachers of Religious Education of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

2. May 5, 2018: Diachronic Museum - Merzoulo (Larissa), 9.00 p.m.

Participants:

Dr. Stratis Psaltou, Counselor of Theologians, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

And the members of the Training Team for Teachers of Religious Education of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

Training Team

Apostolos Barlos, MTh, Trainer of Trainers, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

Dr. Olga Grizopoulou, Connoisseur for the New Curriculum of the Religious Education

Vaso Gogou, BA Theology and Philology, Trainer of Trainers, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

Soultana Gargana, BA, Theology, Co-author of the Course Folder of the Religious Subject of the Second Degree of High School, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

Antonis Panagakis, BA, Theology, Teacher, Connoisseur, Trainer of Trainers, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

Tania Avella, BA, Theology, Trainer, Institute of Educational Policy, Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs

6. Paleography Seminar

Teaching: Konstantinos Palaiologos, PhD in Theology and Byzantine Paleography of the Royal Holloway of the University of London, Post-Doctoral Researcher of the Thomas de Aquino Byzantinus project.

The Seminar is organized by the Department of Research, Management and Conservation of Byzantine and post-Byzantine Monuments and Relics.

More information will be announced soon at, acadimia.org

7. Research Seminar for the History of the Desire for Christian Unity

November 5-7, 2018

Thessalia Conference Center, Melissatika, Volos

The Seminar is organized in cooperation with the Fondazione per le scienze religiose Giovanni XXIII (Ιταλία)

More information will be announced soon on 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 (FEMYSO), 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, 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. Since 2017, the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, as an officially recognized Research Center is a subscribed member of the European Academy for Religion (Euare).



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 N. 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 Helleno-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. “*Holy Canons of the Church and State Laws*”, “*The existence of evil and the problem of theodicy*”, “*The Baptism in the New Testament from an Orthodox and Roman Catholic perspective*”, “*Political Orthodoxy and Totalitarianism in a post Communist Era*”, “*Ecotheology, Climate Justice and Food Security*,” “*Metropolitan of Diokleia Kallistos Ware and the Witness of Orthodoxy in the West*,” “*Theology and Disability in Orthodox Perspective*,” “*Iconography in Greece, Constantinople and the Orthodox world, yesterday and today. Differences and parallels*,” “*Theological Portraits III: Archbishop Chrysostomos of Athens (Papadopoulos): Theology and Church life during the Interwar years*,” “*New Testament Textual Criticism: Its Significance for Scholarship, Culture and Church*,” “*The Theological School of Halki: The Vision for the next day*,” “*Voices of the Liturgy: Gender and Performance in the early Byzantine Church*,” “*On the Laity: Ancient Syriac Models*,” “*Ibadism: Understanding Diversity in Islam*,” “*New Testament Orthodox Hermeneutics: History, Theory, Prospects*,” etc.





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), *Can Orthodox Theology Be Contextual? Concrete Approaches from the Orthodox Tradition* (*The Journal of Eastern Christian Studies*, 1-4, 2017), *The Renewal of the Greek Theology from the Age of the 60s to the Present* (*Contacts*, 3-4, 2017). 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 three volumes in the series: *Orthodox Theology in the Twenty-first Century* (Metropolitan Kallistos Ware); *Orthodoxy and Political Theology* (Pantelis Kalaitzidis) and *A Communion in Faith and Love: Elizabeth Behr-Sigel’s ecclesiology* (edited by Sarah Wilson – Aikaterini Pekridou). The 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) and *The Dialogue between the Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Churches*, edited by Christine Chaillot (Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2016). 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 Dimitriados/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 Dimitriados/Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2014) while the Greek translation of Aristotle Papanikolaou’s book entitled *The Politics of Theosis. Orthodoxy meets democracy* is under publication in the same series. (Ekdotiki Dimitriados / Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2016). In the book series “Theological Portraits” the first volume entitled *Panayotis N. Trembelas. Between Tradition and Renewal, Between Academia and Mission* (Ekdotiki Dimitriados/Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2016) has

been also released, while the collective volume *Personhood, Eucharist and the Kingdom of God in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective: Synaxis Efcharistias in Honor of Metropolitan John Zizioulas of Pergamon*, edited by Pantelis Kalaitzidis and Nikolaos Asproulis (Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2016), and the public lecture delivered by the Metropolitan Ignatius of Demetrias titled: *The Orthodox Church of Greece and the Economic Crisis* (Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2017) have been also recently published.

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), 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). 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 13.663 titles, and of 27.000 titles not yet catalogued or in the process of being catalogued, as well as of 114 titles of journals, while being continuously enriched with new material. The electronic catalogue (OPAC) of the Volos Academy Library is available on line at (<http://www.imd.gr/biblia/menu.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 Association 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 Messager 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

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.



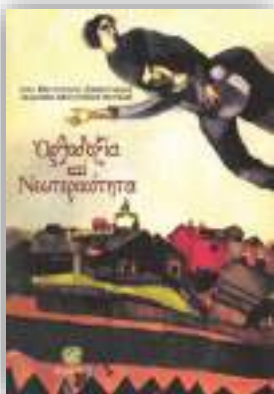
Turmoil in Post-war Theology:

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.





1. Orthodox Christianity and Modernity (Collected Work)

2. Orthodox Christianity and Modernity: Prolegomena: Pantelis Kalaitzidis

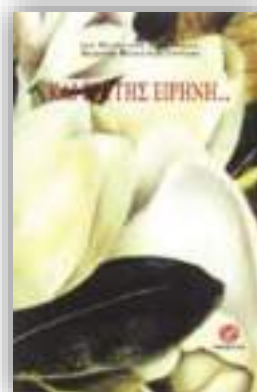
Did Orthodox Christianity stop before modernity? Has Orthodox Christianity come to terms with modernity and its consequences at the social and cultural level? Are human rights compatible with the orthodox ethos and to what extent is the emergence of the subject necessarily linked to individualism and 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?



“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.



Religion and Literature

Issues of the Literary Journal *Nea Hestia*

1st, 2nd, and 3rd part

March 2004, March 2005, and September 2009 respectively



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 Also 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.



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).

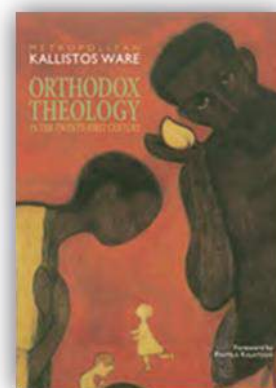


Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, Orthodox Theology in the twenty-first Century

Foreword by Pantelis Kalaitzidis

*“Doxa & Praxis: Exploring Orthodox Theology” series,
Geneva: WCC Publications, 2012*

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.

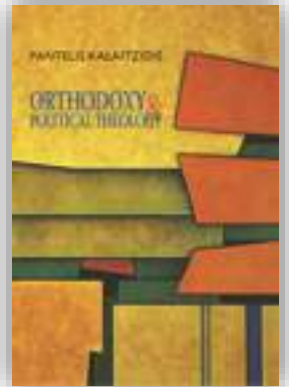


Pantelis Kalaitzidis

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.

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 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.

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

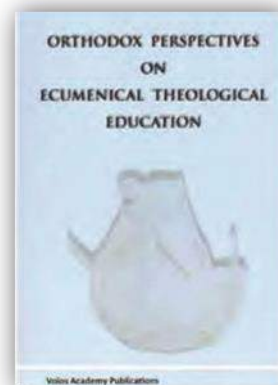
**Edited by Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Thomas Fitzgerald,
Cyril Hovorun, Aikaterini Pekridou,
Nikolaos Asproulis, Dietrich Werner and Guy Liagre,
Volos/Geneva/Oxford: Volos Academy Publications/WCC
Publications/Regnum Books International, 2014**



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***



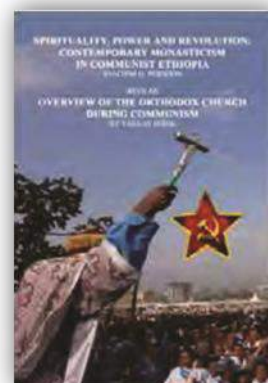
It is a collective volume in English, which contains the proceedings of the international conference entitled “The Ecumenical Movement in Theological Education and in the Life of the Orthodox Churches”. The conference took place from 9 to 12 November 2010 at the Theological Faculty of Sibiu, (Romania). 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, 2014

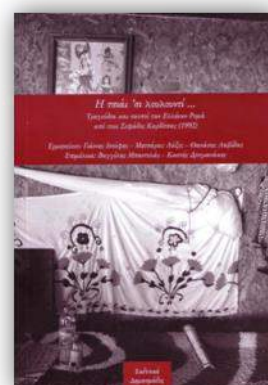


The present publication consists of two independent parts. The first and primary part is the work of Joachim G. Persoon, which deals with Communism in Ethiopia and its relation to the Ethiopian Tewahedo Orthodox Church. The second part was written as a kind of broader introduction to Persoon's book, 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

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.



“Oh, my Poor, poorest Skopelos...”

Edited by: Costis Drygianakis (book with CD)

Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2016

This publication includes the field recordings of the famous musicologist Markos F. Dragoumis in Skopelos, 1967, made on behalf of the Musical Folklore Archives of Melpo Merlie. The publication consists of one CD and a 96-page book, with introductory notes by Markos Dragoumis, Costis Drygianakis and Christos G. Kalantzis, and photographic material covering the range from the epoch of the recording until the present. Besides the few instrumental tunes, the CD includes unaccompanied dancing and wedding songs, lullabies, carols, songs for the Halloween etc., which reveal the local particularities of Skopelos, as well as the relations of the island with the main urban centers.



**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

Transl. Xenophon Komninos, Introduction Nikolaos Asproulis,

Series «In Dialogue - 1»,

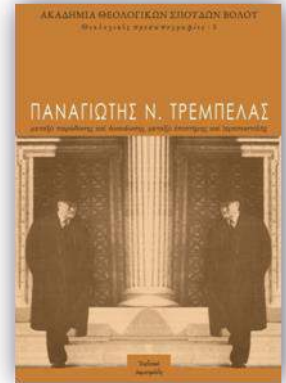
Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2014



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.

Panayiotis N. Trembelas:
Between Tradition and Renewal,
Between Academia and Mission

Edited by Nikolaos Asproulis,
«Theological Portraits-1»,
Volos Academy Publications, Volos 2016

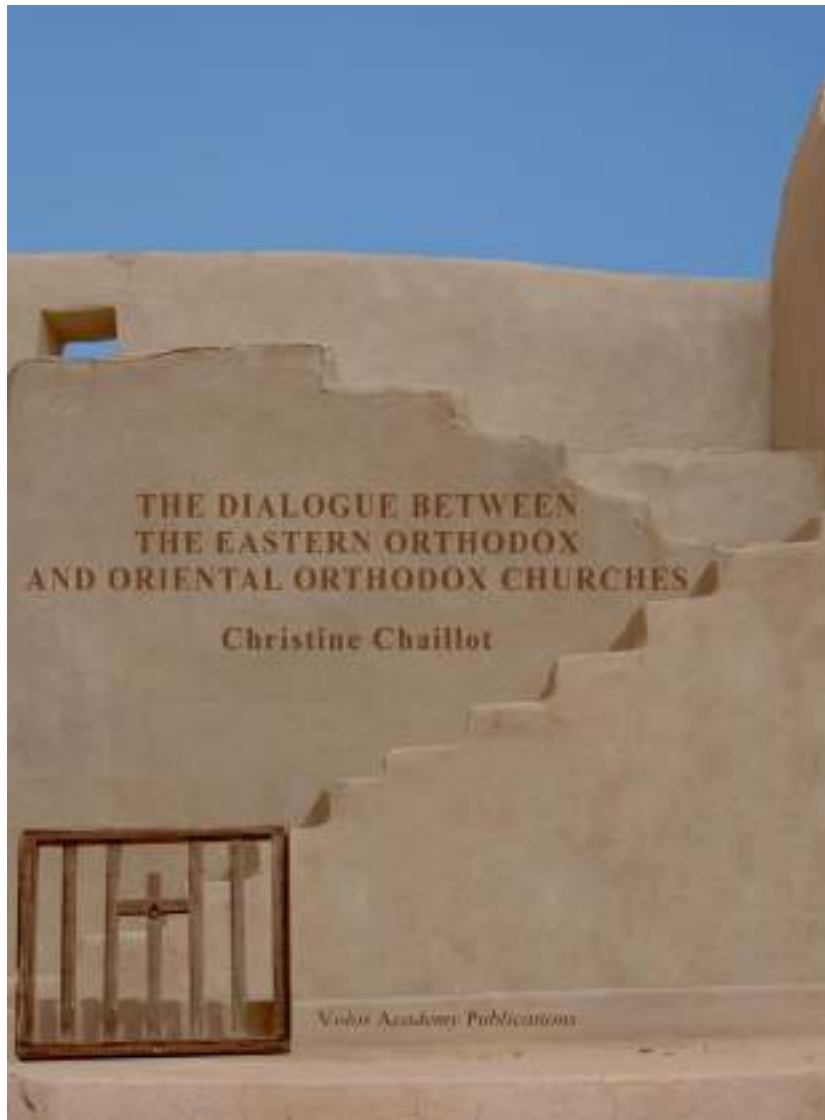


By the book series «Theological Portraits» the Volos Academy for Theological Studies aspires critically to run the most important milestones of Modern Greek theology, as it is reflected in the multilateral contribution of various eminent personalities. In this context, and after thirty years since the 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.

Aristotle Papanikolaou
The Politics of Theosis:
Orthodoxy meets Democracy
Introduction: Pantelis Kalaitzidis,
Translation: Nikolaos Asproulis,
Series “In Dialogue - 2”,
Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2016



In this book, after detecting elements of political theology in the tradition and the history of the Church (from Eusebius to modern times), the author explores by virtue of the Orthodox tradition, as it is interpreted in the context of Eucharistic ecclesiology and theology of personhood, through the concept of *theosis*, or divine-human communion, the nature of liberal democracy, human rights, political forgiveness. In this perspective he proposes a politics of *theosis* which means nothing less than knowing how to love according to God’s way, without running away from the world but in the midst of everyday life.



The Dialogue between the Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox Churches

Ed. Christine Chaillot, Volos Academy Publications, 2016

The main purpose of the book is to serve as a basis for reflection on the dialogue between the Eastern Orthodox and the Oriental Orthodox Churches (of the Coptic, Armenian, Ethiopian and Syriac Tradition) with unofficial dialogue since 1964 and official dialogue since 1985. As it well know the breach began with the theological controversy concerning the relation between human and divine natures in Christ centred on the expression “two natures in one Person” a new Christological formula adopted at the Council of Chalcedon (451). This dialogue should become widely known and understood not only by theologians and scholars but also by ordinary people. Another aim of the book is to enhance the knowledge of this dialogue in all Churches for their own bilateral ecumenical dialogues with the Oriental Orthodox Churches.



**Personhood, Eucharist and the Kingdom of God
in Orthodox and Ecumenical Perspective:
Synaxis Eucharistias in Honor of
Metropolitan John Zizioulas of Pergamon**
Edited by Pantelis Kalaitzidis and Nikolaos Asproulis
Volos Academy Publications, Volos, 2016

As one of the most important representatives of the theological generation of '60, who enjoys universal ecclesiastical and academic recognition, Metropolitan John (Zizioulas) of Pergamon occupies for decades the inter-Christian academic-theological discussion, as well as the universal official dialogue between the Churches. With his multifaceted work he have provoked fruitful reflection on the essential issues of theological discussion and church life, opening at the same time contemporary Orthodox theology to a creative dialogue with modern culture, beyond confessional and defensive preconceptions and without the fear of any otherness. This collective volume contains the proceedings of the conference held in Volos on 28-30 October 2011, on the occasion of the reception of His Eminence as a Honorary Fellow of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies. Without compromising the necessary critical function, which must always be inherent in theology, this volume attempts to express the aspect of indebtedness through a careful study of various aspects of Zizioulas's theological program.

**A Communion in Faith
and Love**

**Elisabeth Behr-Sigel's
Ecclesiology**

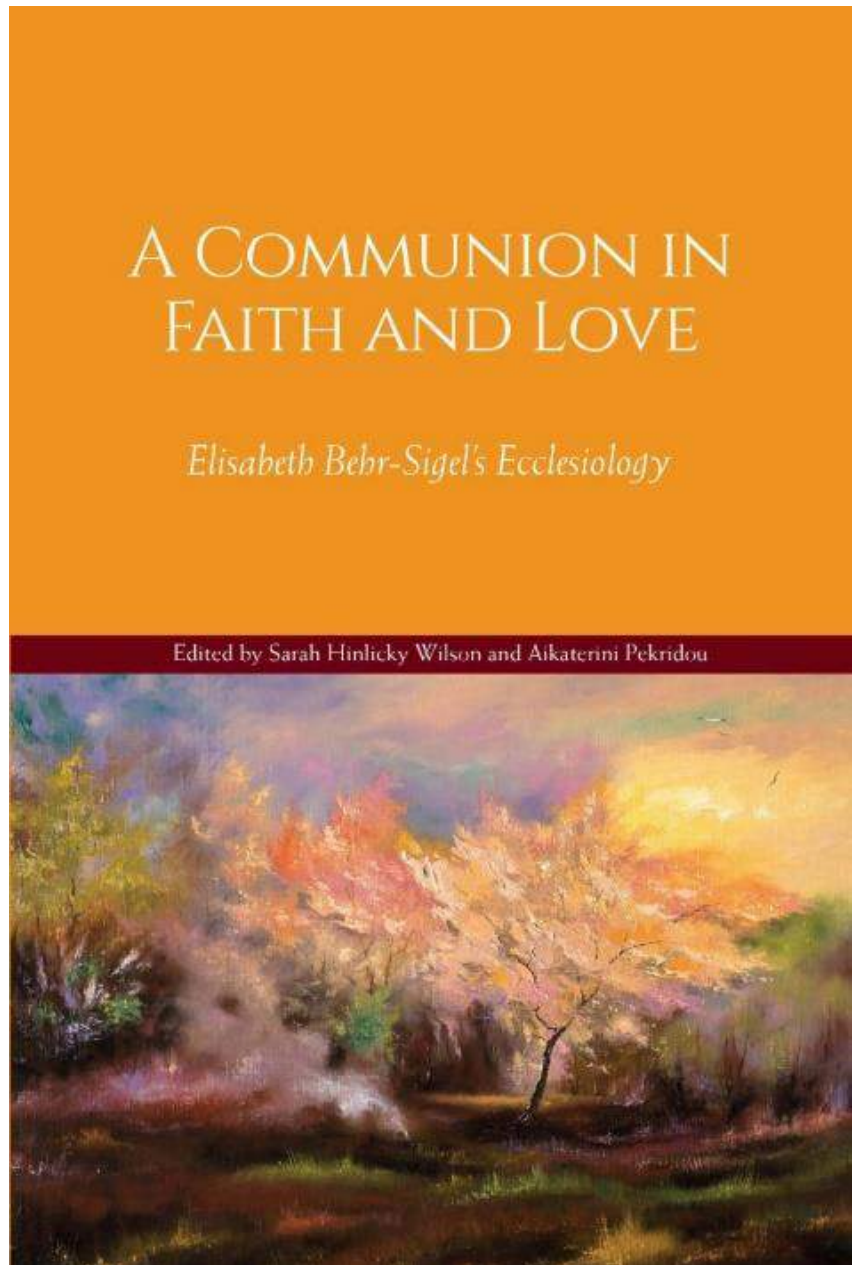
*“Doxa & Praxis: Exploring,
Orthodox Theology” series, ed.*

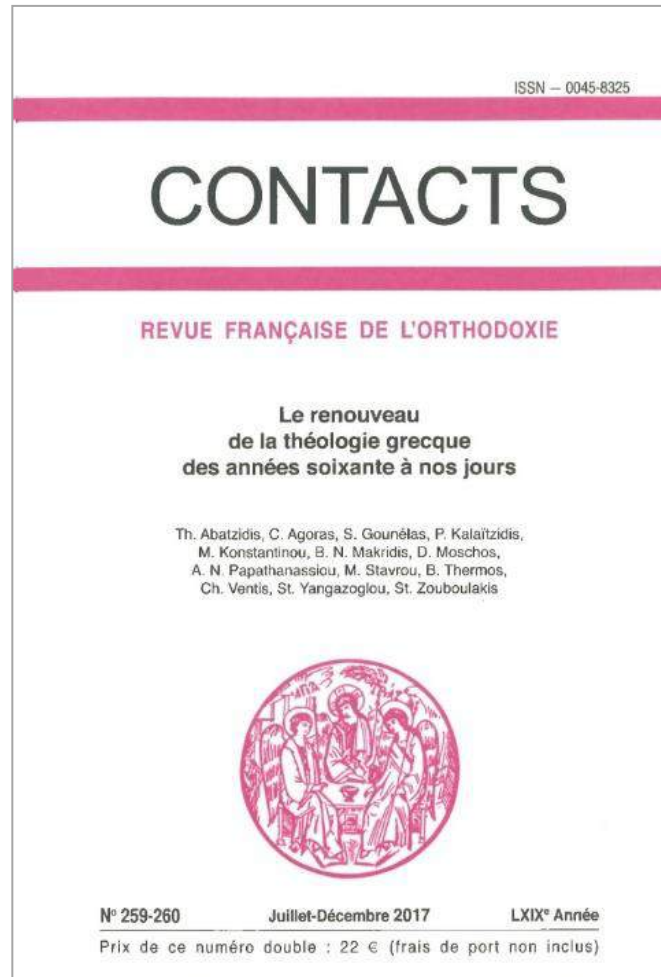
By S. H. Wilson

*and Aik. Pekridou, Geneva:
WCC Publications, 2016*

The life and the work of Orthodox theologian and ecumenical pioneer Elisabeth Behr-Sigel (1907-2005) still hold radical implications for how we understand authentic Christian life and what it means to be church. Born into a Lutheran and Jewish family and ordained in the Reformed tradition, Behr-

Sigel converted to Orthodoxy and continued a lifetime of theological wrestling with the major questions and leading thinkers of her time. Immersed in the religious and social struggles of 20th century Europe, she dove deep into the tradition and saw clearly the relevance of Orthodox spirituality and theology for our turbulent age and Christian communion in the Church. The present volumes contains the proceedings of an International Conference organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with WCC and the Institute of Ecumenical Studies (Strasbourg, France) in August 31- September 3, 2011 in order to study Behr-Sigel's theological legacy, her restless and searching spirit, her deep appreciation of the early Church writers, her creative endurance of the assaults of the wartime Europe, and her grappling with the championing of the ordination of women, issues that point to her relevance for today.

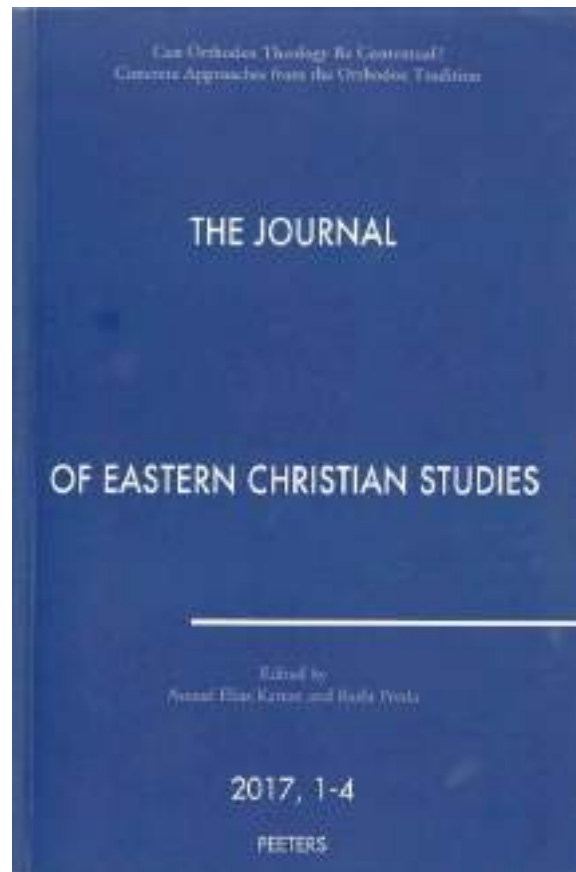




The renewal of the Greek theology from the age of 60s to the present

Contacts no 259-260 (collective) (July-December, 2017)

The present double issue (259-260, July-December, 2017) of the well-known French Orthodox theological journal, *Contacts-Revue Française de l'Orthodoxie*, is dedicated to an International Conference that was held in Paris (France) in April, 15-16, 2010 and was organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies in cooperation with the French Orthodox journal *Contacts* and the Ecumenical Center "Istina." The articles of the present volume by eminent Orthodox theologians and scholars (Theofilos Abatzidis, Michel Stavrou, Sotiris Gounelas, Miltiadis Konstantinou, Vasileios Thermos, Athanasios N. Papathanassiou, Vasileios Makrides, Pantelis Kalaitzidis, Konstantinos Agoras, Stavros Yangazoglou, Stavros Zouboulakis, Dimitrios Moschos, Haralambos Ventis) attempt to critically evaluate the meaning and the quest of a whole theological generation prominent figures (like Ch. Yannaras, Metr. John Zizioulas, John Romanides, Nikos Nissiotis et. al.) and their thought (The relationship of the theology of 60s with biblical studies, Mission, Eucharistic ecclesiology and monastic spirituality, politics etc) which decisively marked the renewal and direction of contemporary Greek Orthodox theology during the second half of the 20th c.

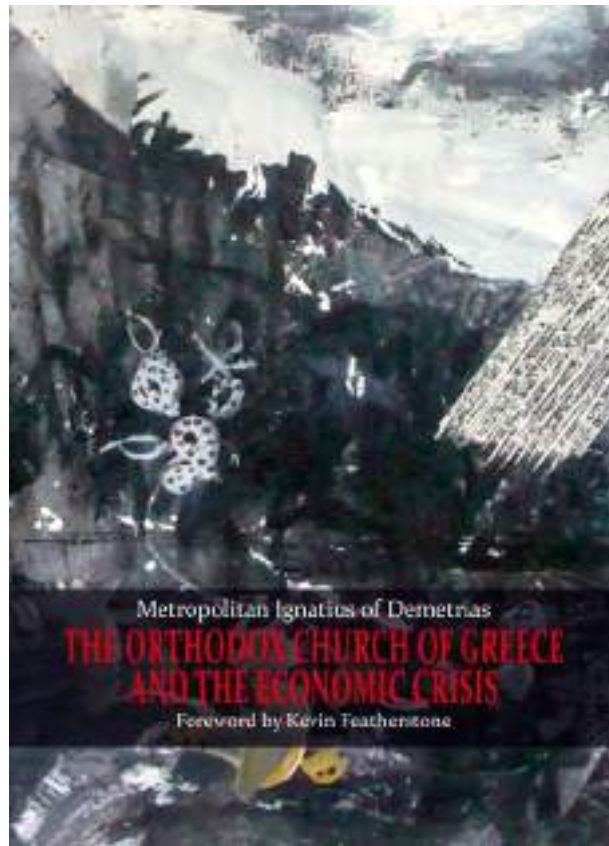


Can Orthodox Theology be Contextual?

Concrete Approaches from the Orthodox Tradition

The Journal of Eastern Christian Studies, 1-4, 2017

The present fourfold issue (1-4, 2017) of the well-known theological journal, The Journal of Eastern Christian Studies, published by Peeters Publishing House is dedicated to an International Conference that was held in Cluj-Napoca (Romania), in May, 2013 and was organized by the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, in cooperation with the Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER, Cluj-Napoca, Romania), the Center for Orthodox Christian Studies at Fordham University (NY, USA), the Chair of Orthodox Theology at Munster University (Germany), the Christian Cultural Centre (Belgrade, Serbia), the St. Andrew's Biblical Theological Institute (Moscow, Russia), and the European Forum of the Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels). Under the topic "Can Orthodox Theology be Contextual? Concrete Approaches from the Orthodox Tradition" the present volume includes articles by eminent Orthodox theologians and scholars which, based on concrete examples from the tradition, seek to critically explore the contextual character of Orthodox theology in general and the relationship of Orthodoxy to literature, economy, politics, a re-envisioning of the basic aspects of the neopatristic synthesis, the holy canons, anthropological issues, in particular and others.



The Orthodox Church of Greece and the Economic Crisis

Metropolitan Ignatius of Demetrias

Foreword by Kevin Featherstone, London School of Economics

Volos, Volos Academy Publications 2017

This book includes the public lecture delivered by the Metropolitan Ignatius of Demetrias at London School of Economics in London, in November 2014: [...]Metropolitan Ignatius addressed his four key themes: 1. The Church's social being and mission today, in the context of the Greek crisis; 2. The Church's own past failings that have created barriers to its effective role and appeal in the present; 3. A critique of current economic orthodoxies – couched in clear theological terms – that elevate market pressures, neglect social responsibility, and impose neo-liberal “discipline” in a manner that increases suffering and poverty and 4. The outline of a practical way forward for the Church. The lecture is clear, (and) thoughtful ...Whatever the faith or non-faith of the reader, these are important themes to reflect upon in...Few would doubt the historic role of the Orthodox Church in forming Modern Greece... How the Church responds to its past failings and confronts the challenges of the present remains a crucial aspect of how Greece develops in the future. (From the Foreword by Kevin Featherstone)

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