

12.15-12.45: **Dr. Souad Slim**, Professor of History, Cultural Studies and Methodology, Art School, Social Sciences School and Theological Institute Balamand University, Lebanon  
*The Imperial Russian Society in Palestine. The Rebirth of an old model*  
12.45-13.15: **Dr. Krastu Banev**, Department of Religion and Theology, Durham University, U.K.  
*Bulgarian Orthodoxy facing the challenges of the post-communist era*  
13.15-14.00: Discussion  
14.00: Lunch

#### 8th Session

**Moderator: Dr. Michael Hjälml**

*Dean of Sankt Ignatios Theological Academy, Sodertalje, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Theology, University of Uppsala, Sweden*

15.45-16.15: **Dr. Samir Morcos**, Member to the National Council for Human Rights and of the Norwegian Academy for Arts and freedom of expression, Cairo, Egypt  
*Church state society: the case of Egypt*  
16.15-16.45: **Dr. Assaad Elias Kattan**, Professor, Chair of Orthodox Theology, University of Münster, Germany  
*Silence as a form of Treason. Church in Syria challenged by the "Spring"*  
16.45-17.15: Discussion  
17.15-17.45: Coffee-break

#### 9th Session

**Moderator: Dr. Aristotle Papanikolaou**

*Archbishop Demetrios Professor in Orthodox Theology and Culture,  
Co-Founder Orthodox Christian Studies Center, Fordham University, New York, USA*

17.45-18.15: **Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis**, Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University, FWO Pegasus Short Marie Curie Research Fellow at KU Leuven, Greece/Belgium  
*Church, State and Society in Greece: From the Dictatorship to Democracy, from the Byzantine "Symphonia" to the challenges of the pluralistic society*  
18.15-18.45: **Rev. Dr. Grigorios Papathomas**, Professor at the School of Theology of the University of Athens and the Orthodox Institute of St. Serge, Paris, President of the European Forum of Orthodox Schools of Theology (EFOST, Brussels)  
*Democracy, Ecclesiococracy and Ecclesiality*  
18.45-19.15: Discussion  
19.15-20.00: Ecumenical Observers  
20.00: Dinner

#### Sunday, May, 31

10.00-12.30: D. Liturgy at Uspenski Cathedral of Helsinki  
12.30-13.30: Branch - Conclusion at Uspenski Cathedral of Helsinki  
14.00-16.30: City tour

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

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

# Program

INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE

CULTURAL CENTER SOFIA  
HELSINKI

MAY 28-31, 2015

## Thursday 28, May, 2015

3.30-4.15: Registration  
4.15-5.00: Opening-Greetings

### 1st session

**Moderator: Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis**

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

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

*"Demythologizing" of Nation in Finland*

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

*Political Orthodoxy: Concept and Implications*

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

*Theology after totalitarian experience*

6.30-7.00: Coffee - break

7.00-7.45: Discussion

8.00: Dinner

## Friday 29, May, 2015

### 2nd session

**Moderator: Elena Gorschkow-Saloranta**

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

9.00-9.30: **Dr. Nadeszda Kizenko**, Associate Professor, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences, Albany University, New York, USA

*The concept of Orthodoxy within the Political sciences*

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

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

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

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

10.30-11.15: Discussion

11.15-11.45: Coffee break

### 3rd session

**Moderator: Dr. Assaad Elias Kattan**

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

11.45-12.15: **Dr. Effie Fokas**, Research Fellow at the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELJAMEP) Principal Investigator in a European Research Council-funded project related to religious freedoms jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights (GRASSROOTSMOBILISE)

*The challenge of Pluralism in Orthodoxy*

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

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

12.45-13.15: **Dr. Radu Preda**, Director, Romanian Institute for Inter-Orthodox, Inter-Confessional and Inter-Religious Studies (INTER), Associate Professor of Social Theology, Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Babeş-Bolyai, Cluj-Napoca, Romania

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

13.15-14.00: Discussion

14.00: Lunch

### 4th session

**Moderator: Dr. Ivana Noble**

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

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

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

16.15-16.45: **Nikolaos Asproulis**, MTh, Academic Associate of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, and the journal *Theologia*

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

16.45-17.15: Discussion

17.15-17.45: Coffee-break

### 5th session

**Moderator: Dr. Alexei Bodrov**

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

17.45-18.15: **Dr. Vasilios Makrides**, Professor of Sociology of Orthodox Christianity, University of Erfurt, Germany

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

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

*Orthodox Liberalism and Secularism: Overcoming Political Nestorianism*

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

*Eastern Christianity and the Liberal International Order*

19.15-20.00: Discussion

20.00: Dinner

## Saturday, May, 30

### 6th session

**Moderator: Rev. Heikki Huttunen**

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

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

*The Concept of "Russian World": Its Evolution in the Post-Soviet Orthodox Context*

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

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

10.00-10.30: **Dr. Anna Briskina-Müller**, Faculty of Theology, Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Germany

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

10.30-11.15: Discussion

11.15-11.45: Coffee Break

### 7th session

**Moderator: Dr. Davor Džalto**

*Associate Professor, American University of Rome,*

*Chairman of the Institute for the Study of Culture and Christianity, Belgrade, Italy/Serbia*

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