

# St. Andrew's in 2017

2017 was a challenging but very fruitful year for us. Despite the local and global problems we held a number of important scholarly and public conferences with accent on ecumenical dialogue and civil society, published many new books and organized several Summer Institutes. Certainly we were actively involved in the Reformation Jubilee by organizing or participating in various conferences, exhibitions, book launches and other events.

## Summer Theological Institutes and Public Conferences

We continued our highly successful Summer Theological Institutes (STI), organizing two sessions in Moscow: the 16<sup>th</sup> STI and the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Summer Institute on Inter confessional and Interr eligious Dialogue* from 26 June to 8 July. These were vibrant meetings with very intensive studies and active communication between students and teachers. Ca 40 students came from all over Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan and represented all major confessions. Many of them were established specialists, university professors or priests. Teachers were St. Andrew's best professors.



The 8<sup>th</sup> Symposium *Feast Images in History, Theology and Culture* in memory of Natalia Trauberg; *A René Girard Day in Moscow*; and the 22<sup>nd</sup> *St. Andrew's Readings on Contemporary Theological Issues* were open to a wide audience and gathered many friends of our Institute.

## Interconfessional and International Cooperation

A number of important international conferences were organized in 2017, often jointly with other academic centers: *International Colloquium on Science and Christianity in Contemporary Europe*, Zagreb, Croatia, 29 June – 1 July; *Reformation in Ecumenical Perspective*, Bose, Italy, 25–28 October; *Religious Consciousness in a Post-Secular Age*, Moscow, 12-15 December.

St. Andrew's rector and other faculty members participated in many international events including the first conference *Science & Orthodoxy around the World* (Athens); Jubilee *Kirchentag* (Berlin) and *Reformation World Exhibition* (Wittenberg); the annual *Journées d'Arras* conference on Muslim-Christian

dialogue (Hannover); the annual conference of *Oikosnet Europe* (Flehingen, Germany); the 'zero' conference of the *European Academy of Religion* (Bologna); an important conference *Questioning Ecumenism in the 20th Century: Who-When-Why* (Bologna); *CEC Consultation on the Future of Europe* (Prague); and many others.

St. Andrew's rector was actively involved in the work of the Steering and Academic committees to prepare GETI' 17 (Global Ecumenical Theological Institute in Berlin in connection with the Kirchentag, May 2017) and GETI' 18 (in Arusha, Tanzania in connection with the World Mission Conference), and of the board of the *European Christian Convention*.

## Publishing Program

St. Andrew's is a recognized leader in academic theological publishing in Russian and our books are in demand at Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant seminaries, university theology departments and, most important, in the secular market. In 2017 we published 19 volumes including:

- *Martin Luther: Rebel in an Age of Upheaval* by Heinz Schilling
- *The Coming of God: Christian Eschatology* by Jürgen Moltmann
- *Darwin's Pious Idea. Why the Ultra-Darwinists and Creationists Both Get It Wrong* by Conor Cunningham
- *A Common Word Between Us and You* by Lejla Demiri, Ed.
- *Handbook on Christian-Muslim Dialogue* by Martin Affolderbach, Alexei Bodrov, Volker Meißner, Hamideh Mohagheghi, Andreas Renz, Eds.
- *The Tribe of Dan. Eschatology and Antisemitism in Contemporary Russia* by Victor Shnirelman
- *The Gospel of Mark. Theological Exegetical Commentary* by Iannuary Ivliev
- *Parables of the Lord and The Mystery of Death* by Adrienne von Speyr
- *A Concise Dictionary of Theology* by Gerald O'Collins, Edward G. Farrugia

Our participation in international book exhibitions in Frankfurt and Moscow helps us to develop cooperation with leading publishers and book distributors worldwide. And we maintain our special book distribution projects to theological, university and regional libraries and to theological graduates – though at a reduced scale this year.