



International Political Conference
"NATION, RELIGIONS - ORTHODOXY & THE NEW EUROPEAN REALITY"
April 17-19, 2005, Athens, Greece

PROGRAMME

All works will be held at the Conference Hall «Karatzas Palace» of the National Bank of Greece, 93 Aiolou str., Athens

Sunday, 17 April 2005

- 17:45** - Departure from the hotels (the Conference Hall is within approximately 100 meters walking distance).
- 18:15** - Arrival of participants at the conference hall.
- 18:30** - **Opening of the Conference**
- Opening address by the President of the General Assembly of the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (I.A.O.) Mr. Sergei Popov.
 - Inaugural speech by the President of the Hellenic Republic Mr. Karolos Papoulias.
 - Welcome address by the A' Vice-President of the Hellenic Parliament Mr. Sotirios Hatzigakis.
 - Welcome address by the Metropolitan of Dimitriadis Ignatios, representative of His Beatitude the Archbishop of Athens and all of Greece Christodoulos.
 - Welcome address by the Vice-President of the European Parliament Prof. Antonios Trakatellis.
 - Welcome address by the Director General of the Research Directorate General of the European Commission Dr. Achilleas Mitsos.
 - Greeting message by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Union of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Member States (P.U.I.C.) Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed Auf.
 - Opening report by the Secretary General of the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (I.A.O.) Mr. Stylianos-Angelos Papatthemelis.

- 20:30** - Reception dinner offered by the A' Vice-President of the Hellenic Parliament Mr. Sotirios Hatzigakis at the "Melas Mansion" (Kotzia Square, Athens) (by invitation only).

Monday, 18 April 2005

- 09:30** - Departure from the hotels.

- 10:00** - **SESSION 1: *The national and religious particularities within the European Union, especially following the new European Constitution.***

Chair: Mr. Antonis Karas, MP, Member of the I.A.O. International Secretariat, Cyprus

- "Church and Nation: An Orthodox perspective"
His Holiness Catholicos of Cilicia ARAM I –Moderator of the World Council of Churches, Lebanon
- "The European Constitution and the European Religious Tradition"
Mr. Panos Demetriou, Member of the European Parliament, Cyprus
- "Tolerance or coexistence? Recognition of the "other" as an aspect of the European integration"
 - *Mrs. Sanda Rašković-Ivić, MP, Serbia and Montenegro*
 - *Mr. Gaqo Apostoli, MP, Member of the I.A.O. International Secretariat, Albania*
- "Europe in 2005 - changes, opportunities and fears"
Rev. Matthew Z. Ross, Executive Secretary, Church and Society Commission, Conference of European Churches, Switzerland

- 11:30 – 12:00** - Coffee break.

- 12:00** - Continuing of the works.

- "Orthodoxy in the European framework: Church, society, authority"
Rev. Michail Doudko, Secretary of the Committee for the relations between Church and Society of the Patriarchate of Moscow, Russian Federation

- “Certainties and Uncertainties: Nationality, religion and European identity”
Prof. Arnaldo Nesti, Director of the international centre of modern religious studies and the journal “Religioni e Società”, Italy
- “The truth about "them". An attempt to define the real dimension of the connections between "religion" and terrorism in Europe”
Mrs. Emanuela C. Del Re, School of Communication Sciences, University of Rome “La Sapienza”, Italy
- "Orthodoxy in Western Europe. Perspectives, challenges"
Prof. Lydia Obolensky, University of Lille, Belgium

- Discussion – interventions.

14:00

- Reception offered by the National Bank of Greece at the Conference Hall.

17:15

- Departure from the hotels.

17:30

- **SESSION 2: *The national and religious heritage in a converging world of globalisation and new technologies.***

Chair: Mr. Nikolaos Nikolopoulos, MP, I.A.O. Alternate Secretary, Greece

- Main report by His Beatitude the Archbishop of Athens and all of Greece Christodoulos.
- “Cultural identity of Europe”
 - *Mr. Bogdan Klich, Member of the European Parliament, Poland*
 - *Mr. Michailo Bauer, MP, Member of the I.A.O. Committee on Education, Ukraine*
- “The religious factor in the former Socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the new European reality”
 - *Mrs. Borislava Kruška, MP, Chairperson of the I.A.O. Committee on Culture, Serbia and Montenegro*
 - *Prof. Dr. Gramoz Pashko, University of Tirana, Albania*
 - *Prof. Valery A. Alekseev, V. Lomonosov Moscow University, I.A.O. Advisor, Russian Federation*

18:30 – 19:00

- Coffee break.

19:00

- Continuing of the works.
 - “East – West. Conflict or coexistence of cultures?”
 - *Prof. Giorgi Alibegashvili, State University of Tbilisi, Georgia*
 - *Mr. Nikita Michalkov, Director, Russian Federation*
 - “The human entity as an inter-cultural concept. The contribution of Orthodoxy in the problem of multiculturalism”
Prof. Marinos Karassis, School of Law, Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki, Greece
 - “Immigration and national diaspora: the contemporary aspect for the ecclesiastical diaspora”
Prof. Dr. Archimandrite Job Getcha, Institute of Orthodox Theology of Saint Serge, France
 - “Migration, Identity and Orthodoxy: the Case of Australia”
Prof. Trevor J. Batrouney, RMIT University, Australia

- Discussion – interventions.

20:45

21:00

- Departure from the Conference Hall for an official dinner offered by His Beatitude the Archbishop of Athens and all of Greece Christodoulos at the restaurant “Dionysos” (by invitation only).

Tuesday, 19 April 2005

09:45

- Departure from the hotels.

10:00

- **SESSION 3: *From cultural self-sufficiency and isolation to the European multiculturalism. The role of religion and specifically the Orthodox viewpoint.***

Chair: Mr. Dimitrios Georgakopoulos, MP, Treasurer of the I.A.O., Greece

- “Tolerance and the Ecclesiastical “Oikonomia” ” The term “according to the Oikonomia” in the Orthodox Theology as an element of co-existence and co-humanism
Metropolitte of Ephesus Chrisostomos, Ecumenical Patriarchate – Istanbul

- “The autocephalous of the Orthodox churches, the idea of nation, and the Orthodox ecumenism”
Mrs. Tamar Topuridze, Tbilisi State University, Georgia
- “Historical recollection as a factor of European coexistence and prospect”
 - *Prof. Igor N. Yablokov, V. Lomonosov Moscow University, Russian Federation*
 - *Prof. Evangelos Chrysos, University of Athens, Director of the Byzantine Research Institute, Greece*
- “Orthodoxy and multiculturalism. Europe. The boundaries of the "other" ”
 - *Prof. Ioan Vasile Leb, University of Cluj, Romania*
 - *Mr. Kiril Miltsev, MP, Member of the I.A.O. Bioethics Committee, Bulgaria*

11:30 – 12:00

- Coffee break.

12:00

- Continuing of the works.

- “Newly found heresies and religious fundamentalism in Europe”
Dr. Georgios Krippas, Doctor of Constitutional Law, Panteion University of Athens, Greece
- “Orthodox ecclesiology and multiculturalism”
Bishop of Trimithuntos Vasileios, Cyprus
- “Orthodoxy and multiculturalism in Europe – new aspects and problems”
Prof. Nikolai Pavlov Atanasov, Bulgaria
- “The Healing and Reconciling Vocation of Orthodox Christianity in Society Today”
Rev. Prof. Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald, Ecumenical Patriarchate, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Boston, U.S.A.

- Discussion – interventions.

14:00

- End of the works of the conference.

14:15

- Departure from the Conference Hall for

14:30

a lunch offered by the President of the I.A.O. General Assembly Mr. Sergei Popov and the I.A.O. Secretary General Mr. Stylianos-Angelos Papatthemelis at the restaurant “Taverna tou Psara”.

- Sight-seeing tour at the historical area of Athens “Plaka”.
- Return to the hotels.
- Departures of participants.