RASCEE Editorial

The current issue of RASCEE presents three articles and four book reviews. Although it is not a special issue focusing on a single topic, it is still special in that two of the articles expand the journal's years long spectrum by introducing legal and architectural aspects to the scientific study of religion and society in Central and Eastern Europe.

Mikhail Antonov's article examines from a legal point of view the highly current topic of the state of freedom of religion in Russia, based on decisions made by the Supreme Court in a number of key cases, including the recent banning of Jehovah's Witnesses. Antonov points out the sophisticated way in which the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation applies doublespeak in order to ban religious communities considered as extremist, while at the same time protecting traditional churches.

The article by Eszter Hajós-Baku examines the relationship between modernity and the Catholic Church between the two world wars from a very interesting combined historical and architectural point of view. It not only gives examples of how modern Hungarian church architecture has evolved, but also presents the controversy between modernists and conservatives and the way in which the position of the church slowly changed.

The third article by Emil Hilton Saggau won the Miklós Tomka Award of the 2018 Isorecea Conference. It discusses how the often-cited close relationship between religious changes and the revival of nationalism in South-Eastern Europe is not necessarily a satisfactory explanation for the situation of former Yugoslav states. The author uses an example from Montenegro to show that religious change can also be examined alone, without necessarily linking it to nationalism.

The current issue is also a milestone in the history of the journal. From 2019, two new editors-in-chief, Miroslav Tižik and Roman Vido, take over the baton from the co-editors of the previous years, Malina Voicu and Gergely Rosta. The journal also has a new executive editor, Nikolina Hazdovac Bajić, who takes over from Branko Ančić. We wish our successors a successful continuation of the traditions of RASCEE!

The editorial Team of RASCEE

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