

Volume XI *Between the West and the East. Eastern Orthodox Church and Uniate*, edited by Marzanna Kuczyńska

This volume presents Russian culture on lands of Commonwealth - both Orthodox and Uniate - in dynamic relation with Polish-Latin culture and with processes that happened in European Orthodoxy after the fall of Byzantine Empire and in face of developing Moscow country. Without breaking spiritual and artistic bond with Orthodox culture that was developing well in the lands of Moscow, Turkey, Venice, Austria and Romania, Russians (citizens of I Commonwealth) could creatively use all the possibilities of development while staying faithful to Eastern Christian traditions. By doing so Church-Slavonic and Russian culture became inseparable element of common heritage of Polish-Lithuanian country but also enriched and diversified culture of Eastern and Central Europe as well as all the Byzantine-Slavonic area. In many cases scientific research strive towards altering dominant perception of Russian culture as different and question the notion of civilization barrier referring not only to Uniate culture but also to traditional Orthodoxy.

The main subject of observation on the area of Orthodoxy and Uniate movement was the clash of different systems of values preserved in tradition of Eastern and Western Christianity. Another topic for papers published within this tome were attempts of synthesis of both traditions.

Research focuses on values displayed in Orthodox and Uniate areas and on polemics using axiological arguments between those two. Russian writings and - in a wider perspective - culture, both Orthodox and Uniate, are presented in dynamic relation with Polish-Latin culture in Commonwealth as well as with processes that happened in European Orthodoxy after the fall of Byzantine Empire.

Main topics of the tome are:

1. Indicators of identity: faith/denomination, language, social status, origin.
2. Tradition and change in culture: Bible studies, patristics, liturgics, theology, prints, translations, schools, apologetics and polemics, preachery.
3. Eternity and mortality: categories of Christian and civil *blahocześcija* (εὐσέβεια), faithfulness, loyalty, morality, sin, synergy, salvation, sacraments, prayer, saints and sanctity, monarchy vs. diarchy, attitude towards a ruler of different denomination, question of church jurisdiction.
4. Basilian-Uniate monks: idea of cultural integration, schools, translation and editorial activities.