



Institute for Peace Studies in Eastern Christianity, Inc.

P.O. Box 380246 (Harvard Square) Cambridge, MA 02238-0246, U.S.A.
tel +1-978-339-3233 | e-mail msimion@orthodoxpeace.org | www.orthodoxpeace.org

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Contact: Denise E. BURRILL, PhD(c)

Tel: 978-339-3232 | E-mail: denise.burrill@etu.univ-montp3.fr

www.orthodoxpeace.org

Presă Universitară Clujeană releases SIMION'S *Research Methodology in Orthodox Peace Studies* UNIVERSITY TEXTBOOK

We are pleased to announce that Presă Universitară Clujeană of the Babeş-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania, had released the e-version of Dr. Marian Gh. Simion's *Research Methodology in Orthodox Peace Studies: university textbook*, in the Romanian language. Babeş-Bolyai University is the leading Romanian university—and unique in the world to include four confessional faculties of theology: Orthodox, Roman-Catholic, Greek-Catholic and Reformed.

This qualitative research methodology proposes a research design based on a cyclical interaction between *inductions* (standard and unofficial religious beliefs), *meaning-making* (the interpretation of violent events according to spiritual paradigms), and *verdicts* (symbolic and non-symbolic official decisions of spiritual leaders.) Each chapter contains review questions, exercises, essay questions, case studies, and a lexicon that introduces key terminology.

According to Rev. Dr. Cristian Sebastian Sonea, the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the Babeş-Bolyai University, "this methodology involves a complex and multidisciplinary approach that uses the tools of social science." A prominent Romanian sociologist and theologian, Dr. Laurențiu Tănase, writes that this textbook is "innovative and perhaps a unique project in the Orthodox world so far," and recommends it to "to all professors and students of theology, sociology, political and administrative sciences, security studies or international and diplomatic relations, as a privileged source of academic education and reflection."

An English version of the textbook is currently underway via IPSEC.

The textbook is available in PDF format at: <http://www.editura.ubbcluj.ro/www/ro/ebook2.php?id=2107>

Dr. Marian Gh. Simion is a Social Scientist and Orthodox theologian. Currently, he serves as President & CEO of IPSEC, as Field Education Supervisor at Harvard Divinity School, and as Research Associate at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. ###

The mission of the Institute for Peace Studies in Eastern Christianity, Inc., is to conduct research, educate, and offer consultancy to educators, policymakers, and religious leaders in exploring and implementing methods of peacemaking emerging from the traditions of Eastern Christianity. For more information, visit <http://www.orthodoxpeace.org>, or contact Marian Simion, PhD, President & CEO at 978-339-3233; e-mail: msimion@orthodoxpeace.org