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## Our New Name

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## OUR NEW NAME

With this issue we have made a minor change in the name of our publication. Instead Occasional Papers on Religion in Eastern Europe the new name will be simply Religion in Eastern Europe. The change does not signify any change in editorial direction or character of the publication. It simply affirms that we are a periodical rather than a sporadically appearing publication, which the word "occasional" can connote. Library subscribers in particular may be helped by this change of name which would reassure them of the regular appearance of this paper, which, indeed, was the case but the title confused some of the subscribers. We shall continue to appear six times a year, which makes this a bi-monthly publication, starting with the second month of the year.

When this publication commenced in February 1980, we were not sure whether we could sustain a regular publication program. But slow and steady development have brought us to the stage where the submission of papers is so steady that we no longer have to depend entirely on solicited manuscripts since a fairly large number of unsolicited manuscripts are being submitted at a steady pace. We were glad to recognize continued improvement not merely of the number of papers but also of their variety and quality, and currently we are among a very small number of publications which specialize in the analysis of the situation of religion in the former socialist countries of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Enormous changes in this region caused us to reflect whether it may not be appropriate to change the term "Eastern Europe" as well. Its limitations are all too obvious. It tends to suggest a certain 'bloc' character of those countries which they no longer have. It is often dismissed as an accurate term by many from Poland, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary who prefer the term "Central Europe." And finally it does self-evidently include the countries of the former Soviet Union, particularly those who are not in continental Europe but in Asia. Since it is our continued intention to include Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, former East Germany, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and the states emerging from the former Yugoslavia as well as all states of the former Soviet Union, we are in a need of an inclusive term. Search as much as we may, we were unable to come up with an adequate inclusive name. It appears that the term "Eastern Europe" is still the most adequate pointer to the conglomerations of states that we wish to cover--that vast area from Prague to Vladivostok, from Tirana to Warsaw, from Riga to Dushanbe, from Yerevan to Berlin. Less

by preference and more by limitations of language we will retain the term "Eastern Europe." Incidentally, the same decision was made by the Executive Committee of Christians Associated for Relationships with Eastern Europe, our parent organization, when challenged to reexamine the adequacy of the name of the organization. So, CAREE stays CAREE, but OPREE became REE.

We hope that this change does not cause too great problems for our subscribers and readers.

Paul Mojzes, Editor