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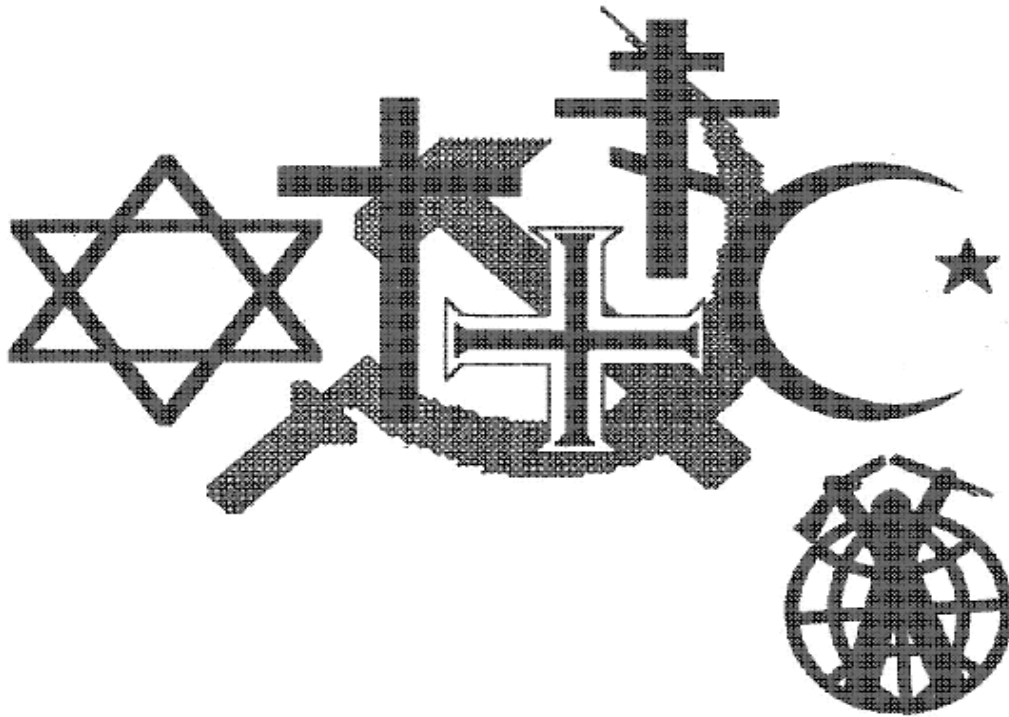
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**CONTEMPORARY INTERACTION BETWEEN RELIGION AND
MEDICINE IN EASTERN EUROPE**

Eleven articles about UKRAINE

**NORTH MACEDONIA and
HUNGARY**

Guest Editors of the Special Topic Issue: Iurii Kuchyn and Nataliia Ishchuk

**Edited by Paul Mojzes
Co-edited by Beth Admiraal and H. David Baer**

OCCASIONAL PAPERS ON RELIGION IN EASTERN EUROPE

Vol. XLI, No. 1 (February 2021)

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Editor's Note: The first issue of OPREE for the year 2021 is on a relevant topic to both religion and medicine in the times of the Covid-19 pandemic which has already infected millions of lives and killed hundreds of thousands throughout the world. It continues to be an enormous challenge as of the date of this issue.

One of OPREE's Advisory Editors, Nataliia Ishchuk of Kiyv, Ukraine, suggested several months ago that we should devote an issue to this special topic which links religion and medicine and offered to start working on assembling authors who would address various aspects of this topic. Two faculty members of the Bogomolets National University, its rector and medical professor Iurii Kuchyn and Nataliia Ishchuk, professor in the department of philosophy, bioethics and history of medicine became the co-editors of this special issue. In addition to nine articles by Ukrainian scholars, it also contains an article from North Macedonia by Professors Gjoko Gjorgjevski and Ivan Blazhevski of Skopje, which was recommended by another of our Advisory Editors, Ruzhica Cacanovska. And providentially, still another Advisory Editor, Professor András Máté-Tóth of Szeged, Hungary, on his own initiative submitted an article on the impact of the pandemic on worship and pastoral care in Hungarian churches.

Should these article motivate others to address related issues we are willing to include additional articles or explorations and responses in future issues.

Paul Mojzes, editor-in-chief