

5-2021

## Activity of Evangelical Baptist Christians In Ukraine (1991-2021)

Hnat Mierienkov

*National Pedagogical Dragomanov University*

Mykhailo Fedorenko

*Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding*

Serhii Makarchuk

*Regional center for research and editorial and publishing activities, Mykolaiv, Ukraine*

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/ree>



Part of the [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Eastern European Studies Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Mierienkov, Hnat; Fedorenko, Mykhailo; and Makarchuk, Serhii (2021) "Activity of Evangelical Baptist Christians In Ukraine (1991-2021)," *Occasional Papers on Religion in Eastern Europe*: Vol. 41 : Iss. 4 , Article 19.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/ree/vol41/iss4/19>

This Article, Exploration, or Report is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Occasional Papers on Religion in Eastern Europe by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact [arolfe@georgefox.edu](mailto:arolfe@georgefox.edu).

# ACTIVITY OF EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHRISTIANS IN UKRAINE (1991-2021)

By Hnat Mierienkov, Mykhailo Fedorenko and Serhii Makarchuk

**Hnat Mierienkov** is a post-graduate student in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the National Pedagogical Dragomanov University. Research interests: Religious studies, Protestantism. E-Mail: [ignatmerenkov@gmail.com](mailto:ignatmerenkov@gmail.com)  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8283-6332>

**Mykhailo Fedorenko** has a PhD in history and is an Associate Professor of Social Sciences and Humanities at the Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding, Mykolaiv, Ukraine. Scientific interests: History of religion in Ukraine. E-Mail: [m.o.fedorenko@gmail.com](mailto:m.o.fedorenko@gmail.com)

**Serhii Makarchuk** has a PhD in history and is an Associate Professor and head of the regional center for research and editorial and publishing activities at the Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding, Mykolaiv, Ukraine. Research: two projects, “Book of Memory of Ukraine” and “Rehabilitated by History,” and archival work in the state and sectoral archives of the Security Service and the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and the archives of the prosecutor's office and courts. E-Mail: [ocpdtarvd@ukr.net](mailto:ocpdtarvd@ukr.net)  
ORCID: <http://orsid.org/0000-0003-4279-1093>

## Abstract

The religious movement of Evangelical Baptists is the largest in terms of the number of believers in the Ukrainian Protestant community. The review of missionary activity and social projects of this denomination presented is an outline of the key areas of work of Evangelical Baptists in Ukraine. The largest number of Protestant educational institutions in Ukraine belong to the Baptists. All Baptist educational institutions can be divided into two types: 1) general preparatory programs of state institutions (kindergartens, schools, institutes, educational centers), and 2) theological seminaries, which aim to train ministers to meet the spiritual needs of the church. Baptist higher education institutions are currently on the way to obtaining state accreditation. Over the last five years (2015-2020), thanks to volunteer work in eastern Ukraine, Baptists have become known to Ukrainian society as a church that is actively involved in meeting the needs of the population affected by the military conflict. Baptist believers are actively involved in the country's political processes, many of them as deputies and regional leaders. Thanks to participation in interfaith activities within the Council of Evangelical Protestant Churches of Ukraine and the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, Evangelical Baptists have been able to publicly express themselves in the organization and holding of Thanksgiving, held annually since September 2017 in the capital of Ukraine.

**Keywords:** Evangelical Baptists, educational and social activity during the period of independence of Ukraine.

## **Introduction.**

Modern Ukraine is a multi-religious tolerant state in which Orthodoxy, Catholicism, and Protestantism coexist along with non-Christian religions. Against the background of the most widespread Orthodoxy (almost 70 percent of the population), Protestantism is practiced by about two percent of Ukrainians. This branch of Christianity is represented mainly by late or also called neo-Protestant denominations, such as Baptists, Christians of the Evangelical Faith (Pentecostals), and Adventists. However, recently the number of charismatic trends has been growing rapidly. Baptists are the most common among Protestants in Ukraine. The most numerous Baptist union in terms of the number of believers is the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches, which has regional associations of religious communities in its structure. The example of this union shows the main processes and trends in the religious sphere, many of which are characteristic of Ukrainian Protestantism in general.

## **Presentation of the Main Research Materials**

According to the union's website, the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches consists of 25 regional associations of Evangelical Baptists in Ukraine, and there are also five associations of churches operating in the Ukrainian diaspora in other countries.<sup>1</sup> As of 2017, the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptists included 2,691 local churches. There are also 39 theological schools with 5,504 pupils and students, 1,263 Sunday schools, 14 printing centers, and 9 electronic media. The total number of pastors of the Evangelical Baptist Church is about three thousand people. However, in recent years there has been some reduction of the quantitative growth of the clergy.<sup>2</sup>

Presently, the activities of Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist churches take place in a wide range of ministries. These areas include missionary work, Christian education, social service, work with youth and children, protection of family values, and others. Social activities include such services as medical, chaplaincy for prisoners, aid for people with hearing and visual impairments, assistance for orphans, as well as the service of rehabilitation for people with addictions.

---

<sup>1</sup> “Про Союз ЄХБ.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів. Accessed March 28, 2021. <https://www.baptyst.com/pro-soyuz/>. [“On the ECB Union.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>2</sup> Анатолій Колодний, “Протестантизм у релігійному житті України,” in *Реформація і трансформація суспільства: досвід минулого і виклики сучасності: матеріали Міжнародної науково-практичної конференції* (Львів, 2017), 122. [Anatoliy Kolodny. “Protestantism in the religious life of Ukraine.” In *Reformation and Transformation of Society: Experience of the Past and Challenges of the Present: Proceedings of the International Scientific and Practical Conference.*]

As of 2005, there were 1,500 Sunday schools of the Evangelical Baptist Churches (hereafter EBC), which involved 5,000 evangelical teachers with about 50,000 children.<sup>3</sup> Media service is being developed and improved. In 2010, journalists, Christian bloggers, and church youth leaders attended a conference called Media Mobilization. Also, the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches regularly publishes video content on various topics. During the quarantine the EBC conducted video broadcasts of services.<sup>4</sup> The All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches publishes its literature. One of the important periodicals is the scholarly and theological almanac "*Bogomyslye*" [Divine Thought], which publishes only works by domestic authors. Its purpose is to form and develop the East Slavic evangelical theological tradition.

Ukrainian Baptists could not afford such a variety of evangelical work when Ukraine was a part of the USSR, because at that time atheist authorities severely restricted religious activity and persecuted believers. The life of Protestants, including Evangelical Baptists at the time, was survival in a totalitarian anti-religious regime. But with the fall of the Soviet Union and Ukraine's independence in 1991, the EBC gained many new opportunities. It transitioned from hostile attitude from the state during the Soviet era and its semi-legal or even illegal status to legalization and legal recognition of this denomination by the Ukrainian state. It began to have a significant position in the socio-religious world along with the other traditional Christian denominations of the state.<sup>5</sup> It was during this period that the Baptists rethought their mission in society. The path is taken by the Church of the Evangelical Baptists in independent Ukraine, which includes the analysis of its current state, forms, and methods of its activity follows.

For all Protestants, the first and most obvious indicator of the fulfillment of the mission entrusted to them by Jesus Christ is the preaching of the Gospel according to the commandment "Go and teach all nations." How did these sermons take place and how was the understanding of its essence transformed from the early years of Ukraine's independence to the present day?

---

<sup>3</sup> П. Яроцький, "Інституалізація протестантизму як вихід у світ," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 35 (2005): 241-42. [P. Yarotsky. "Institutionalization of Protestantism as a way out." Ukrainian religious studies.]

<sup>4</sup> "“UA:Культура” щонеділі транслює богослужіння євангельських християн-баптистів.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2020. <https://www.baptyst.com/ua-kultura-shhonedili-translyuye-bogosluzhinnya-yevangelskyh-hrystyyan-baptystiv/>. ["UA: Culture broadcasts Evangelical Baptist services every Sunday." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>5</sup> П. Яроцький, "Стан пізньопротестантських конфесій," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 46 (2008): 302–3. [P. Yarotsky. "The state of late Protestant denominations." Ukrainian religious studies.]

In the 1990s, the most common forms of evangelism among Baptists were mass evangelism. In the first half of the 1990s, thanks to such measures, the ranks of the EBC grew by 50%. People who had no previous religious experience came to the church.<sup>6</sup> Evangelization had a powerfully prepared and advertised campaign, often using the media. Musical numbers and sermons calling for repentance before God were obligatory at such events. In addition to public evangelists, many qualified pastors also worked with people to serve a large number of visitors. The experience of mass preaching by Protestants in Western countries was noted. One of the subspecies of mass evangelism was service through the use of easily constructed tents, without having to rent halls.

Also, since the beginning of the period of independent Ukraine, Evangelical Baptists have traditionally used Christian holidays for evangelization, in particular Christmas and Easter. During the warm period of the year, Evangelical Baptists hold the water baptism service for new converts, which also calls for faith and repentance by those who have not yet decided to make a covenant with God.<sup>7</sup>

One of the directions of evangelization was the mass construction of prayer houses, which are the "business card" of the church's presence in a settlement. But celebrations, such as jubilee events related to the history of the church, often take place in various rented public spaces, such as community centers.<sup>8</sup>

In the second half of the 1990s, the EBC, like other late Protestant churches, increased its types of gospel sermons. Among them: 1) sermons for different age groups; 2) the use of charity as a means of drawing people's attention to the biblical message; 3) preaching by small groups; 4) personal evangelism; 5) sermons in printed periodicals, radio, and television.

About 4,000 ordinary members of Evangelical Baptists were involved in personal evangelization in the second half of the 1990s. This individual testimony program was called Heart-to-Heart. It has been noted that personal evangelism is a very effective method of attracting souls to Christ. However, this figure is also evidence that only a small number of

---

<sup>6</sup> П. Яроцький, "Інституалізація протестантизму як вихід у світ," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 35 (2005): 240. [P. Yarotsky. "Institutionalization of Protestantism as a way out." *Ukrainian religious studies*]

<sup>7</sup> М. Мокієнко, "Євангелізаційно-місіонерська діяльність пізніх протестантів в Україні (1988-2004 рр.)," in *Форум 20. Двадцять лет релігійної свободи и активної миссии в постсоветском обществе: Итоги, проблемы, перспективы евангельских церквей* (Київ: Дух и літера, 2011), 305-306. [M. Mokienko. "Evangelical Missionary Activity of Late Protestants in Ukraine (1988-2004)." In *Forum 20. Twenty years of religious freedom and active mission in post-Soviet society: Results, problems, prospects of evangelical churches.*]

<sup>8</sup> П. Яроцький, "Стан пізньопротестантських конфесій," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 46 (2008): 304-305. [P. Yarotsky. "The state of late Protestant denominations." *Ukrainian religious studies.*]

Evangelical Baptists have responded to this project.<sup>9</sup> The Baptist author M. Cherenkov agrees with this opinion, noting that in the 1990s--a favorable decade of spiritual thirst and excitement of society--the Baptists did not use all of its chances for evangelism. Consequently, since the beginning of the third millennium, there has been a growing apathy towards religion in Ukrainian society.<sup>10</sup>

Since 2001, an apologetic trend has developed among the Evangelical Baptists. Literature is beginning to be published that focuses not simply on the call to repentance, but on how to present the Christian faith to people who hold other religious views, or do not acknowledge the existence of God at all, in a language and concepts they understand. Especially noteworthy is the Christian Research and Apologetics Center. It is primarily devoted to answering questions of people who do not acknowledge the existence of God. There are also works and articles devoted to the view of the origin of the world and living beings, which is an alternative to today's popular theory of evolution. Referring to the scientific data and works of creationist scientists, this Apologetic Center defends the view of the Intelligent Plan for the creation of the world and the truth of the biblical history of Creation and the Flood. Special emphasis is on the literalness of the days of Creation in Genesis 1, that is, that they lasted 24 hours, not a long period. Periodicals, books, brochures, video lectures, master classes, seminars on creationism, etc. are published.

There is also the Center for Apologetic Research.<sup>11</sup> Employees of the Center for Apologetics Research define the purpose of their activities "primarily with cults, pseudo-Christian movements, and dangerous tendencies." They advocate a "high academic level" of research, try to carefully "evaluate other movements" and "analyze." Since 2000, the so-called "specialized evangelization" has been in force, the peculiarity of which is "the gospel on a professional basis." Various Christian organizations have sprung up under the Evangelical Baptists, such as the Christian Medical Association, the Christian Businessmen's Union, the Christian Military Service, and the Cornelius Herald.<sup>12</sup>

---

<sup>9</sup> П. Яроцький, "Інституалізація протестантизму як вихід у світ," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 35 (2005): 241. [P. Yarotsky. "Institutionalization of Protestantism as a way out." *Ukrainian religious studies*.]

<sup>10</sup> М. Черенков, "Трансформації соціально-богословської позиції українського євангельського протестантизму," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 45 (2008): 135–40. [M. Cherenkov. "Transformations of the Socio-Theological Position of Ukrainian Evangelical Protestantism." *Ukrainian religious studies*.]

<sup>11</sup> Центр Апологетичних Досліджень. Accessed March 29, 2021. <http://www.apologetika.org.ua/>. [Center for Apologetic Research.]

<sup>12</sup> "Список організацій-партнерів ВСЦ ЄХБ." Союз Євангельських Християн-Баптистів України, March 30, 2021. [http://old.baptyst.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=17&Itemid=143&lang=ua](http://old.baptyst.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=17&Itemid=143&lang=ua). ["List of WCC ECB partner organizations." Union of Evangelical Baptists of Ukraine]; М. Мокієнко, "Євангелізаційно-місіонерська діяльність пізніх протестантів в Україні (1988-2004 рр.)," in *Форум 20. Двадцять лет религиозной свободы и активной миссии в постсоветском обществе: Итоги, проблемы,*

As of 2005, the Evangelical Baptist Church has invited 3,513 foreign missionaries to serve in Ukraine. At the same time, however, dependence on foreign missions gradually diminished with the formation of a new generation of domestic church leaders. At present, the missionary activity of Evangelical Baptists is focused on domestic rather than foreign evangelicals, as was the case in the 1990s and the first half of the 2000s. Emphasis is placed on local believers who are close to the Ukrainian mentality and culture to be active in ministry and preaching.<sup>13</sup>

Moreover, Ukrainian Baptists began sending Gospel preachers outside Ukraine. For example, as of 2004, the EBC in Ukraine had sent more than 400 domestic missionaries to Central Asia, the Balkans, the Baltics, and the Caucasus. Also in this denomination, there is a call for the so-called "evangelization of life." It is based on the slogan, "Preach the word of God always, and use words only when necessary." It is a sermon without a pre-planned program, a testimony to an occasion that arises in ordinary life situations.

During the years of Ukraine's independence, the EBC has built a strong network of spiritual educational institutions, through which the Church provides itself with personnel for ministry. Evangelical Baptist schools have declared the principle of not becoming copies of foreign Christian institutions. However, there are also programs of cooperation with theological educational institutions outside Ukraine. The reason for this is the insufficient number of highly qualified theologians among domestic Baptists, so there is a need to attract support from foreign educational institutions. At the same time, there is a tendency to involve domestic specialists in non-theological subjects.

The methodology of teaching future ministers of the EBC takes into account the contextualization of approaches to serving the cultural and national characteristics of the diverse Ukrainian population. The development of Evangelical Baptist higher education institutions is one of the signs of the interest of a large number of the church members in obtaining higher education or secondary special education. It was this privilege that was forbidden to believers during the communist regime.<sup>14</sup>

---

перспективы евангельских церквей (Киев: Дух и литера, 2011), 309-11. [M. Mokienko. "Evangelical Missionary Activity of Late Protestants in Ukraine (1988-2004)." In Forum 20. Twenty years of religious freedom and active mission in post-Soviet society: Results, problems, prospects of evangelical churches.]

<sup>13</sup> П. Яроцький, "Протестантизм в Україні: динаміка змін. Порівняльний аналіз інституалізації братства евангельських християн-баптистів і організації Свідків Єгови," *Людина і світ*, no. 7 (2004): 7. [P. Yarotsky. "Protestantism in Ukraine: dynamics of change. A comparative analysis of the institutionalization of the Evangelical Baptist fraternity and the organization of Jehovah's Witnesses." Human and world.]

<sup>14</sup> П. Яроцький, "Інституалізація протестантизму як вихід у світ," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 35 (2005): 247-48. [P. Yarotsky. "Institutionalization of Protestantism as a way out." Ukrainian religious studies]

As of the end of 2013, there were about 40 theological schools in the EBC. In addition to training specialists, they implement their programs in charitable institutions (boarding schools, orphanages, hospitals, nursing homes, care for the homeless, AIDS patients, and drug addicts). According to Chaplinsky, evangelical Christians are capable of shaping "social patterns of behavior," and they have the potential to further develop toward a more open way of preaching and implementing the biblical message in Ukrainian society.

Detailed information about the state of education of Evangelical Baptists is most clearly displayed on the official website of this religious organization. For example, the Tavriya Christian Institute currently teaches students in five different denominations in the following programs: Bachelor of Theology (state license); Christian counseling; Master of Women's Ministry.

As of 2017, about 300 students studied at the Odessa Theological Seminary. They offer a variety of theoretical and practical programs on various aspects of Christian life and ministry. The highest level of education offered by the seminary is a master's degree.<sup>15</sup>

Kremenchuk Evangelical Seminary teaches, among other programs, a bachelor's degree in women's ministry, a leader in family ministry, social ministry, and a preacher-leader of small groups.<sup>16</sup> In cooperation with this institution with the Tavriya Christian Institute, the Master of Christian Leadership program was established.<sup>17</sup>

Kyiv Theological Seminary offers basic programs (bachelor's level) in such areas as biblical studies, evangelism and church planting, world missionary activity, ministry for youth and adolescents, pastoral and chaplaincy leadership, and Christian education. The seminary, in cooperation with the Drahomanov National Pedagogical University, also specializes in theology and religious studies. In addition, the seminary has master's programs in the humanities in biblical and theological studies (this program is conducted by the Talbot

---

<sup>15</sup> "Поступая в ОБС, ты поступаешь правильно!" Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2016. <https://www.baptyst.com/postupaya-v-obs-ty-postupaesh-pravyln/>. ["By entering the OBS, you are doing the right thing!" All-Ukrainian Union of the Church of Evangelical Christians-Baptists.]

<sup>16</sup> "Статус дипломованих чи готовність служити Господу." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/status-dyplomovanyh-chy-gotovnist-sluzhyty-gospodu/>. ["Status of graduates or willingness to serve the Lord." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]; "Триває набір у Кременчуцькій євангельській семінарії." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/tryvaye-nabir-u-kremenchutskij-yevangelskij-seminariyi/>. ["Recruitment continues at the Kremenchug Evangelical Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches].

<sup>17</sup> Геннадій Нефьодов, "Лідер навчає лідерів." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/lider-navchaye-lideriv/>. [Nefedov, Gennady. "A leader teaches leaders." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]



School of Theology), biblical pastoral care, and youth ministry.<sup>18</sup> Kharkiv Bible College trains preachers, chaplains, music leaders, and children's Sunday school teachers.

The Ukrainian Baptist Theological Seminary prepares bachelor degrees for the organization of new churches and church preachers. Kharkiv Bible College trains preachers, chaplains, music leaders, and children's Sunday school teachers.<sup>19</sup> The Ukrainian Baptist Theological Seminary prepares bachelors for the organization of new churches and church preachers.<sup>20</sup> In 2017, a cooperation agreement was signed between this seminary and the International Institute of SCM from Canada. Within the framework of this cooperation, the plan is to create a master's program, which will have state accreditation of international standards. The aim is to train future ministers who will be able to train new leaders for the church, as well as for various non-profit organizations associated with the church organization and promote business structures to have a beneficial effect on Ukrainian society.<sup>21</sup>

Irpin Bible Seminary<sup>22</sup> teaches students not only from Ukraine but also from Moldova, the USA, and the Czech Republic. In 2019, 356 people became new students of the seminary. Also in 2019, a new master's program "Biblical Pastoral Care" was launched at the seminary. Additionally, other areas of Christian ministry are evolving.<sup>23</sup>

In 2017, the state recognized diplomas of graduates of Ukrainian theological universities of various denominations of the "bachelor" level. The solemn event took place on February 13 on the premises of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. On that day, more than two hundred graduates of theological schools were awarded certificates of

---

<sup>18</sup> "Киевская богословская семинария открывает набор абитуриентов на 2017-2018 учебный год." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/kyevskaya-bogoslovskaya-seminariya-otkryvaet-nabor-abyturyentov-na-2017-2018-uchebnyj-god/> ["Kiev Theological Seminary opens the recruitment of applicants for the 2017-2018 academic year." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>19</sup> Віктор Банніков, "Випуск у Харківському біблійному коледжі." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/vypusk-u-harkivskomu-biblijnomu-koledzhi/>. [Victor Bannikov. "Graduation from Kharkiv Bible College." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>20</sup> "Семінарія у Львові святкує випуск." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/seminariya-u-lvovi-svyatkuye-vypusk/>. ["Seminary in Lviv celebrates graduation." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>21</sup> "Міжнародні зв'язки Української теологічної семінарії." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/mizhnarodni-zv-yazky-ukrayinskoyi-teologichnoyi-seminariyi/>. ["International Relations of the Ukrainian Theological Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>22</sup> "Випуск в Ирпенской семинарии." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2017. <https://www.baptyst.com/vypusk-v-irpenskoj-seminariyu/>. ["Graduation from Irpen Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>23</sup> "В Ірпінській семінарії стартували нові програми." Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/u-irpinskij-seminariyi-startuvaly-novi-programy/> ["New programs have started at Irpin Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

recognition of their diplomas by the Deputy Minister of Education and Science Yuriy Rashkevych, a member of the National Team of Experts on Higher Education Reform in Ukraine. Among others, 40 graduates of the Kremenchuk Evangelical Seminary received certificates. However, for the spiritual institutions of Evangelical Baptists, this was not the ultimate achievement. Their goal is to obtain state recognition of not only bachelor's but also master's degrees. This state recognition allows theological university graduates to become more integrated into society and exert an evangelical influence on it.<sup>24</sup>

In May 2019, for the first time in the history of Ukraine, the Evangelical Baptist educational institution and the Tavriya Christian Institute received a state license. Thus, the process of study at this university will be recognized by state institutions on a par with other accredited universities in Ukraine, and not merely as a religious activity.<sup>25</sup>

Many diverse events and scientific conferences are held in Baptist seminaries. Evangelical Baptist educators raise the question of the relationship between the Baptist tradition and the church's response to the challenges of modern times. It speaks to the difference between the theological tradition as a positive phenomenon of the church life of Evangelical Baptists and distorted traditionalism, which can slow down the spiritual and quantitative development of the church.<sup>26</sup> The participants of the meetings are looking for ways to promote the development of science through the prism of the Christian worldview. For this purpose, the plan is to write dissertations, books, articles, and hold conferences and round tables through and alongside the development of scientific journalism and cooperation with the media based on this topic, and interaction with Christian scholars at the local, state, European, and world levels. Additional goals are to write educational textbooks by Christians, create new educational subjects, and record online lessons.<sup>27</sup> The flexibility of the

---

<sup>24</sup> “Вручення свідоцтв про державне визнання духовної освіти.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2017. <https://www.baptyst.com/vruchennya-svidotstv-pro-derzhavne-vuznannya-duhovnoyi-osvity/>. [“Presentation of certificates of state recognition of spiritual education.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>25</sup> “Таврійський християнський інститут отримав державну ліцензію.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/tavrijskyj-hrystyyanskyj-instytut-otrymav-derzhavnu-litsenziyu/>. [“The Tavriya Christian Institute has received a state license.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>26</sup> Федір Стрижачук. “‘Нове і старе’ – в Одесі пройшла міжнародна богословська конференція.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/nove-i-stare-v-odesi-projshla-mizhnarodna-bogoslovska-konferentsiya/>. [Fedor Strizhachuk. “‘New and old’ - an international theological conference was held in Odessa.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

<sup>27</sup> “Вчені з церков ЄХБ об’єдналися.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/vcheni-z-tserkov-yehb-ob-yednalysya/>, [“Scientists from the ECB churches have united.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches.]

EBC to perceive and respond to the transformations and demands of Ukrainian society can be traced to the development of social service. Baptists perceive the existing reality and work to expand and deepen their activities. Thus, if in the 1990s the EBC focused on short-term programs with a small thematic content, now there is the development of larger evangelistic and spiritual-educational projects aimed at showing the population of Ukraine the relevance and scientific validity of the Bible and its reporting.<sup>28</sup>

During the Soviet era, Baptists, as well as representatives of other religions, were in a marginal position in Soviet society. M. Cherenkov claims that strange as it may sound, evangelical Christians "living under an atheistic regime was calmer than in an open pluralistic society."<sup>29</sup> Although for decades the believers were in difficult conditions, a certain strategy has already been developed for them. In the new realities of religious freedom, the church has had to respond to the new challenges of the new social order and the question of defining its own identity in it.

Finding answers to these challenges has often created tensions between two divergent trends in attitudes toward the world. After all, like other late Protestant churches in Ukraine, Baptists emphasize the New Testament principle: "You are not of the world." However, on the other hand, the Church is called to be "in the world." This means that, on the one hand, the mission of Christ's followers is to avoid the sinful influence of society, but on the other hand, they are called to enlighten those who do not yet know God for their salvation, and in addition to oral enlightenment, to assist the urgent needs of people outside the church. Among responses to the challenges of the time, the most notable is social service.

Since the 2000s, social activity has been growing among Evangelical Baptist Christians. Yes, Baptists are ready to establish cooperation with non-Christian organizations for the implementation of social and charitable projects for the Ukrainian population. However, guided by the above New Testament paradigm, they are critical of the worldviews that have anti-Christian and anti-moral elements.<sup>30</sup>

---

<sup>28</sup> М. Мокієнко, "Євангелізаційно-місіонерська діяльність пізніх протестантів в Україні (1988-2004 рр.)," in *Форум 20. Двадцять лет религиозной свободы и активной миссии в постсоветском обществе: Итоги, проблемы, перспективы евангельских церквей* (Київ: Дух и літера, 2011), 309-311. [M. Mokienko "Evangelical Missionary Activity of Late Protestants in Ukraine (1988-2004)." In *Forum 20. Twenty years of religious freedom and active mission in post-Soviet society: Results, problems, prospects of evangelical churches.*]

<sup>29</sup> М. Черенков, "Трансформації соціально-богословської позиції українського євангельського протестантизму," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 45 (2008): 135. [M. Cherenkov. "Transformations of the Socio-Theological Position of Ukrainian Evangelical Protestantism." *Ukrainian religious studies.*]

<sup>30</sup> А. Жаловага, "Антропологічні аспекти сучасного протестантського проповідування (наслідки контент-аналізу)," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 22 (2002): 40-41. [A. Zhalovaga. "Anthropological aspects of modern Protestant preaching (consequences of content analysis)." *Ukrainian religious studies.*]

The EBC has turned its attention to charity. This type of service was not possible during the communist regime. Now it is one of the central ones in the social activities of Evangelical Baptists. To implement charitable projects, like other Ukrainian Protestants, the Church of Evangelical Baptists today has charities, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes, and more.<sup>31</sup>

Baptists have fruitfully conducted special programs for prisoners, emphasizing the change in the way of life of convicts, repentance and faith in God, and their subsequent socialization after the prison. The work of rehabilitation centers for alcohol and drug addicts shows positive results. For example, as of 2003, approximately 70% of the patients of the Evangelical Baptist Rehabilitation Center in Chernivtsi Oblast were on the path of correction and returned to sober living and became members of local churches. However, it should be said that working with addicts requires a lot of patience, effort, and time. A positive result is not always guaranteed, so this service shows a desire to help people at any cost, to do something useful for society, rather than a way to increase the number of converts.

Volunteering is also common among Baptists. For example, in the 2000s, members of the EBC in Cherkasy showed Christian charity by working in a tube dispensary as cleaners and nurses.

The organization of summer camps for orphans and minors from large and low-income families has also become traditional. One of the areas of assistance to orphans is the organization of family-type orphanages with funding from foreign Christian missions and in cooperation with the All-Ukrainian Christian Orphan Foundation "Strumok" in Kyiv.<sup>32</sup>

A clear indicator of Baptist social activism since 2014 has been humanitarian action, which is a response to the challenges posed by the war in Donbas. Thus, to help the victims in the zone of military conflict in this region in July 2018, the faithful of the Evangelical Baptists of Ukraine sent about 90 tons of cargo to the needy. The aid included food and hygiene kits, which were sent to about 20,000 adults and children. The European Baptist Federation, the German charity Bread for the World, the German Baptist Relief, and Disaster

---

<sup>31</sup> М. Мокієнко, "Євангелізаційно-місіонерська діяльність пізніх протестантів в Україні (1988-2004 рр.)," in *Форум 20. Двадцять лет религиозной свободы и активной миссии в постсоветском обществе: Итоги, проблемы, перспективы евангельских церквей* (Київ: Дух и літера, 2011), 304. [М. Mokiienko. "Evangelical Missionary Activity of Late Protestants in Ukraine (1988-2004)." In *Forum 20. Twenty years of religious freedom and active mission in post-Soviet society: Results, problems, prospects of evangelical churches.*]

<sup>32</sup> О. Лірник. "Аналіз та осмислення соціального служіння п'ятидесятників, баптистів та адвентистів у сучасній Україні." *Гілея: науковий вісник*, no. 113 (2016): 112-13. [O. Lirnyk. "Analysis and understanding of the social ministry of Pentecostals, Baptists and Adventists in modern Ukraine." *Gilea: scientific bulletin.*]

Relief also participated in this charity project. At that time, since the beginning of the armed conflict, 170,000 people in the Donbas have received financial assistance from the ECB.<sup>33</sup>

As for social doctrines, Baptists, like other Ukrainian Protestants, take an unequivocally negative stance on abortion, euthanasia, and human genetic engineering. Among other aspects of the social doctrine of Evangelical Baptists, it is worth noting the support for private property. In this case, the acquisition of wealth is not an end in itself; it is considered to belong to God and is given to the believer to do good deeds. Humans are not the owner of wealth but only its managers and have to answer to God for how they dispose of it.

As for the Baptists' view of the family, marriage is "a union between a man and a woman for mutual help, support, and the continuation of the human race."<sup>34</sup> That is, the emphasis is exclusively on the marriage of two people of the opposite sex. Taking this position, the EBC in Ukraine pursues a consistent strategic line against what it calls a "gender policy offensive," against LGBT propaganda. Statements have been repeatedly made to state bodies to prevent LGBT people from "marrying, adopting children, occupying a prestigious place in society, and promoting their views in schools, universities, and kindergartens."<sup>35</sup> To achieve this goal, days of fasting and prayer were also announced.<sup>36</sup>

The EBC expresses its position before the government of Ukraine and in other cases that, in the opinion of the Baptists, pose a threat to the Ukrainian nation. Thus, in December 2015, representatives of the EBC, represented by the Chairman of the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches, Valery Antonyuk, condemned the Ukrainian government's

---

<sup>33</sup> Баптисти відправили на Донбас 90 тонн гуманітарної допомоги." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2018. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-vidpravili-na-donbas-90-tonn-gumanitarnoji-dopomogi\\_n91899](https://risu.ua/baptisti-vidpravili-na-donbas-90-tonn-gumanitarnoji-dopomogi_n91899). ["Baptists sent 90 tons of humanitarian aid to Donbass." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>34</sup> Є. Буга, "Соціальні доктрини протестантизму в контексті соціокультурних перетворень українського суспільства," *Наукові праці [Чорноморського державного університету імені Петра Могили комплексу "Києво-Могилянська академія"]*. Сер. : Соціологія, no. 213 (2013): 38. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-proti-quot-nastupu-gendernoji-politiki-quot-odnak-v-minyusti-stverdzhuyut-shcho-ukrajini-ce-ne-grozit\\_n56674](https://risu.ua/baptisti-proti-quot-nastupu-gendernoji-politiki-quot-odnak-v-minyusti-stverdzhuyut-shcho-ukrajini-ce-ne-grozit_n56674).; [E. Buga. "Social doctrines of Protestantism in the context of socio-cultural transformations of Ukrainian society." Scientific works of the Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy complex]. Ser. : Sociology.]

<sup>35</sup> "Баптисти проти 'наступу гендерної політики', однак в Мінюсті стверджують, що Україні це не грозить." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2012. ["Baptists oppose the 'gender policy offensive,' but the Justice Department says Ukraine is not threatened." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>36</sup> "Українські баптисти молитимуться, щоби після асоціації з ЄС нас оминуло лихо гріха та розпусти." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2013. [https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-molitimutsya-shchobi-pislya-asociaciji-z-yes-nas-ominulo-liho-griha-ta-rozpusti\\_n65607](https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-molitimutsya-shchobi-pislya-asociaciji-z-yes-nas-ominulo-liho-griha-ta-rozpusti_n65607). ["Ukrainian Baptists will pray that after the association with the EU we will escape the scourge of sin and debauchery." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

attempts to legalize gambling.<sup>37</sup> Additionally, Baptists have an active social position in trying to find ways to solve global and personal problems, including the promotion of healthy lifestyles, fostering in society the desire for education, creative expression, and active entrepreneurship. That is, the EBC has the potential to motivate Ukrainian society to be active for the benefit of the people and the state.<sup>38</sup>

The EBC believes that the embodiment of practical piety in the lives of Christians will be the key to the presence of harmony, freedom, and good in society. Therefore, conscientious work is one of the responsibilities of a Christian, and it should not contain any form of fraud or violence.<sup>39</sup>

Although during the Soviet period the attitude of Baptists to the state was quite negative due to the constant persecution of believers, with the beginning of religious freedom in independent Ukraine, this attitude gradually began to change. Due to the emigration of many families of Soviet-era Baptists and their replacement by younger newly converted Ukrainians, the church community generally developed a more positive view of believers in state institutions. Already in the first years of Ukraine's independence, Hryhoriy Komendant, head of the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches, stressed that along with moral responsibility to God, Baptists are "conscious citizens of our Ukraine" who contribute to building an independent state.<sup>40</sup> In the first years of Ukraine's independence, the EBC sided with Ukrainization, becoming one of the initiators of the Ukrainian Bible Society, which aimed to distribute Bibles in the state language.<sup>41</sup>

Also, looking at the positive experience of foreign Protestants in the socio-political life of Western countries, Ukrainian Baptists increasingly understood that Christian service

---

<sup>37</sup> “Уряд має дослухатися до засудження легалізації азартних ігор з боку церков різних конфесій – заява Євангельських християн-баптистів.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2015. [https://risu.ua/uryad-maye-dosluhatisya-do-zasudzhennya-legalizaciji-azartnih-igor-z-boku-cerkov-riznih-konfesiji-zayava-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv\\_n77364](https://risu.ua/uryad-maye-dosluhatisya-do-zasudzhennya-legalizaciji-azartnih-igor-z-boku-cerkov-riznih-konfesiji-zayava-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv_n77364). [“The government must listen to the condemnation of the legalization of gambling by churches of different denominations,” said Evangelical Baptists. Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>38</sup> В. Чаплинський, “Генезис и типология баптизма и тенденции развития его вероучения в постсоветский период,” *Релігія та соціум*, no. 1–2 (2014): 295-97. [Chaplinsky, V. "Genesis and typology of Baptism and tendencies in the development of its doctrine in the post-Soviet period." Religion and social.]

<sup>39</sup> Е. Буга, “Соціальні доктрини протестантизму в контексті соціокультурних перетворень українського суспільства,” *Наукові праці [Чорноморського державного університету імені Петра Могили комплексу “Києво-Могилянська академія”]*. Сер. : *Соціологія*, no. 213 (2013): 37-38. . [E. Buga. "Social doctrines of Protestantism in the context of socio-cultural transformations of Ukrainian society." Scientific works of the Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy complex]. Ser. : Sociology.]

<sup>40</sup> М. Мокієнко, “Трансформація суспільно-політичних поглядів євангельських християн-баптистів (XX – початок XXI ст.),” *Релігія та Соціум*, no. 2 (2013): 48. [M. Mokienko. "Transformation of socio-political views of Evangelical Baptists (XX - early XXI century)." Religion and Society.]

<sup>41</sup> П. Яроцький, “Стан пізньопротестантських конфесій,” *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 46 (2008): 326. [P. Yarotsky. "The state of late Protestant denominations." Ukrainian religious studies.]

should be aimed at addressing the pressing needs of people's lives, and political activity can be one tool to address these needs.

Although the EBC as an organization cannot participate in politics and the electoral process, members of the Church as citizens of Ukraine are not prohibited from participating in politics. Gradually, the activity of Ukrainian Protestants, in particular Evangelical Baptists, shifted from social and civic activity to political activity. Thus, since 2002, Baptists have regularly participated in election campaigns and feel called to work in various positions for the benefit of the Ukrainian state. Thus, hundreds of Baptists were elected deputies of different levels of government: city councils, regional councils, the *Verkhovna Rada*.<sup>42</sup>

The ECB specifies that the Church, on the one hand, and society and politics, on the other, must not merge, because they are on different planes and pursue different goals. Baptists emphasize that the Church as a whole cannot have any political position or support any political party. Also, the Evangelical Baptist Church cannot fulfill its mission by using its influence on public authorities.<sup>43</sup>

However, this does not mean that the representatives of the Church cannot express certain opinions about certain political events in the country. During the dramatic events of the 2004 presidential election, dubbed the Orange Revolution, the reaction of the leadership of Evangelical Baptists can be seen. Thus, during the events of November 29, 2004, the Meeting of Christian Churches of Ukraine sent an appeal entitled "Open Letter to the Incumbent President of Ukraine, Mr. Leonid Kuchma." In the letter, church leaders called on then President of Ukraine to pass an "examination of conscience," from which the people of Ukraine expect "fateful decisions." With these decisive steps, Leonid Kuchma could dispel public distrust of certain actions of public authorities. The president was called to account for "officials who are guilty of rigging the election by abusing power, as well as those who are plotting to split the country."<sup>44</sup> Hryhoriy Komendant, the head of the All-Ukrainian Union of

---

<sup>42</sup> П. Яроцький, "Трансформація пізньопротестантських конфесій в незалежній Україні," *Софія. Гуманітарно-релігієзнавчий вісник*, no. 2 (2016): 78, 80. [P. Yarotsky. "Transformation of Late Protestant Denominations in Independent Ukraine." Sofia. Humanities and Religion Bulletin.]

<sup>43</sup> М. Мокієнко, "Трансформація суспільно-політичних поглядів євангельських християн-баптистів (XX – початок XXI ст.)," *Релігія та Соціум*, no. 2 (2013): 50-51. [M. Mokienko. "Transformation of socio-political views of Evangelical Baptists (XX - early XXI century)." Religion and Society.]

<sup>44</sup> "Релігійні лідери закликають Кучму подбати про законну передачу повноважень новому Президентові." Львівський портал, 2004. <https://portal.lviv.ua/news/2004/11/30/104643>. ["Religious leaders are urging Kuchma to take care of the legal transfer of power to the new president." Lviv portal.]

Evangelical Christians-Baptists, also signed the appeal. This was evidence of the "pro-Ukrainian identity" of this denomination.<sup>45</sup>

The leadership of the Evangelical Baptists also spoke about the events of the Orange Revolution. It was argued that the unity of society, which was manifested on the Maidan in 2004, was evidence in particular of the fact that no religion should have any special privileges and be obligatory or dominant in the Ukrainian state.<sup>46</sup>

But the greatest turning point in understanding the attitude of the Church of Evangelical Baptists to political and social processes was the Revolution of Dignity in late 2013 to early 2014. At that time, there was not only a threat of violation of the rights and freedoms of Ukrainian citizens by the then leadership of the Ukrainian state. There was the question of the very existence of Ukraine and its sovereignty and independence. It was these events that led to the determination of some Ukrainian Baptists regarding civic activity during this turbulent period. They realized themselves as a "full-fledged church" in Ukrainian society, which must cast its vote and express its position.

It is worth noting that the entire Evangelical Baptist community has not taken such an active civic stance. Certain Baptist communities that maintained the attitude toward the state and power formed during the Soviet period continued to believe that it was necessary to stand aside from any political processes.

The Baptists who took a proactive position drew their theological basis from the works of Western Baptists, for whom it is customary not to stand aside from the life of society. Thus, the theology of social transformations arose on Ukrainian soil, which was called "Theology of the Maidan." This new theological approach was an attempt to bring the Church, in particular the EBC, closer to society.<sup>47</sup>

At the beginning of the Revolution of Dignity in November 2013, Evangelical Baptist theologians said that "Baptists cannot remain neutral when Ukraine stands on Euromaidan." It is also noted that on the one hand, evangelical churches do not call on their faithful to take part in political rallies, however, on the other hand, every believer as a citizen of Ukraine by

---

<sup>45</sup> Юраш, Андрій. "Українські Церкви і Президентські вибори: шлюби з любови і за розрахунком (1 част.)." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2005. [https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-cerkvi-i-prezidentski-vibori-shlyubi-z-lyubovi-i-za-rozrahunkom-1-chast\\_n8904](https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-cerkvi-i-prezidentski-vibori-shlyubi-z-lyubovi-i-za-rozrahunkom-1-chast_n8904). [Andrew Yurash. "Ukrainian Churches and the Presidential Elections: Marriages of Love and Calculation (Part 1)." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>46</sup> М. Мокієнко, "Пізнопротестантські конфесії у виборчій кампанії 2004 р.," *Культурологічний вісник*, no. 16 (2006): 52. [M Mokiienko. "Late Protestant denominations in the 2004 election campaign" Cultural Bulletin.]

<sup>47</sup> Г. Трегуб, "'Читати знаки часу': вітчизняна баптистська теологія у світлі впливів суспільних трансформацій в Україні та російсько-української війни," *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 84 (2017): 120-123. [G. Tregub. "' Reading the Signs of the Times ': Domestic Baptist Theology in the Light of the Influences of Social Transformations in Ukraine and the Russian-Ukrainian War." Ukrainian religious studies.]



participating in rallies shows his/her civic position, which is inseparable from the Christian faith.<sup>48</sup>

The leadership of the Evangelical Baptists also called on the security forces not to carry out the "shameful orders" of their leadership due to the bloody events on the Maidan, which led to "immoral fratricide."<sup>49</sup>

In the turbulent events of the Revolution of Dignity in late February 2014, the leadership of the EBC called on the Evangelical Churches of Ukraine to do everything possible to heal the emotional wounds caused by the bloody confrontation to restore Ukrainian society. It was emphasized that on the Maidan the church served people with the Word of God, volunteers, and medical care, and also supplied clothes and food. The need to restore justice and due justice in the country was emphasized, as well as the need to form a Government of People's Confidence and to hold transparent presidential elections.<sup>50</sup>

During the active phase of the Russian Federation's armed aggression on Ukraine during the period of political instability in May 2014, the EBC declared fasting and prayer for the peaceful election of the President of Ukraine and the cessation of hostilities and stabilization of the situation in Ukraine.<sup>51</sup>

Calls for National Lent and Prayer for Peace in the EBC are in line with the threats facing the state, such as asking God for mercy for Ukraine and protection of its integrity, as well as for the healing of the wounded and comfort for the victims and families of the dead.<sup>52</sup>

Baptists have a representative in the Public Council at the Ministry of Defense. In particular, he oversees the access of ministers of his denomination to military units where

---

<sup>48</sup> "Баптисти не можуть залишатися нейтральними, коли Україна стоїть на Євромайдані, - заява богословів." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2013. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-ne-mozhut-zalishatisya-neytralnimi-koli-ukrajina-stojit-na-yevromaydani-zayava-bogosloviv\\_n66221](https://risu.ua/baptisti-ne-mozhut-zalishatisya-neytralnimi-koli-ukrajina-stojit-na-yevromaydani-zayava-bogosloviv_n66221). ["Baptists cannot remain neutral when Ukraine stands on Euromaidan," theologians said. Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>49</sup> "Голова ВСЦ СХБ закликав силовиків не виконувати ганебні накази." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/golova-vsc-yehb-zaklikav-silovikiv-ne-vikonuvati-ganebni-nakazi\\_n67373](https://risu.ua/golova-vsc-yehb-zaklikav-silovikiv-ne-vikonuvati-ganebni-nakazi_n67373). ["The chairman of the WCC EHV called on the security forces not to carry out shameful orders." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>50</sup> "Щонеділі до 25 травня на Майдані молитимуться за стабілізацію, єдність та цілісність України." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/shchonedili-do-25-travnya-na-maydani-molitimutsya-za-stabilizaciyu-yednist-ta-cilisnist-ukrajini\\_n67889](https://risu.ua/shchonedili-do-25-travnya-na-maydani-molitimutsya-za-stabilizaciyu-yednist-ta-cilisnist-ukrajini_n67889). ["Every Sunday until May 25, Maidan will pray for the stabilization, unity and integrity of Ukraine." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>51</sup> "Церкви братства євангельських християн-баптистів посилено молитимуться та поститимуть за цілісність України." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/cerkvi-bratstva-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv-posileno-molitimutsya-ta-postitimut-za-cilisnist-ukrajini\\_n68677](https://risu.ua/cerkvi-bratstva-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv-posileno-molitimutsya-ta-postitimut-za-cilisnist-ukrajini_n68677). ["Churches of the Evangelical Baptist Brotherhood will pray and fast for the integrity of Ukraine." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>52</sup> "Баптисти оголосили Національний піст та молитву за мир в Україні." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-ogolosili-nacionalniy-pist-ta-molitvu-za-mir-v-ukrajini\\_n70485](https://risu.ua/baptisti-ogolosili-nacionalniy-pist-ta-molitvu-za-mir-v-ukrajini_n70485). ["Baptists proclaim National Lent and Prayer for Peace in Ukraine." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

Baptist soldiers serve.<sup>53</sup> Especially after 2014, the issue of military chaplaincy became relevant in the Evangelical Baptist Church. To achieve this, training was conducted to obtain professional chaplaincy assistance. Ukrainian Baptists learned their chaplaincy experience from foreign Christian chaplains with many years of experience.<sup>54</sup>

On January 22, 2019, the public union "All-Ukrainian Council" was registered, the purpose of which is to "ensure the Christian way of development of Ukraine" through the implementation of projects in the fields of culture, education, and others. It is emphasized that the All-Ukrainian Council is not a political party, but it includes Christian politicians. Oleksandr Turchynov, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine and a member of the Evangelical Baptist Church, was elected coordinator of the All-Ukrainian Council. The Spiritual Council of this union includes the leaders of several Protestant denominations in Ukraine. Among them was the head of the All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches, Valery Antonyuk.<sup>55</sup>

The EBC is actively involved in interfaith associations, such as the Council of Evangelical Protestant Churches of Ukraine and the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations<sup>56</sup> Within this organization, Baptists, along with other churches, were the initiators of all-Ukrainian prayers for various needs: 1) for peace in Ukraine and the cessation of armed aggression of the Russian Federation, 2) for the military in the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) zone and for those who suffered from this armed conflict, and 3) for God's protection from the coronavirus pandemic.<sup>57</sup>

---

<sup>53</sup> "Українські баптисти мають нового представника в Міноборони." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2011. [https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-mayut-novogo-predstavnika-v-minoboroni\\_n50270](https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-mayut-novogo-predstavnika-v-minoboroni_n50270). ["Ukrainian Baptists have a new representative in the Ministry of Defense." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>54</sup> "У Київській богословській семінарії ВСЦ ЄХБ відбувся навчальний семінар для військових капеланів." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2019. [https://risu.ua/u-kijivskiy-bogoslovskiy-seminariji-vsc-yehb-vidbuvsya-navchalniy-seminar-dlya-viyskovih-kapelaniv\\_n96123](https://risu.ua/u-kijivskiy-bogoslovskiy-seminariji-vsc-yehb-vidbuvsya-navchalniy-seminar-dlya-viyskovih-kapelaniv_n96123). ["A training seminar for military chaplains was held at the Kyiv Theological Seminary of the WCC EHB." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>55</sup> "Євангельські Церкви і громадські діячі заснували громадську спілку 'Всеукраїнський Собор.'" Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2019. [https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-i-gromadski-diyachi-zasnuvali-gromadsku-spilku-vseukrajinskiy-sobor\\_n95968](https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-i-gromadski-diyachi-zasnuvali-gromadsku-spilku-vseukrajinskiy-sobor_n95968). ["Evangelical Churches and public figures founded the public association 'All-Ukrainian Council.'" Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>56</sup> "Інформація про ВРЦіРО." Всеукраїнська Рада Церков і релігійних організацій, n.d. <https://vrciro.org.ua/ua/council/info>. ["Information about VRTsIRO." All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations]; and "Про РЄПЦУ." Рада Євангельських Протестантських Церков України, n.d. <http://repcu.org/about/>. ["About REPCU." Council of Evangelical Protestant Churches of Ukraine.]

<sup>57</sup> "Євангельські Церкви засудили російську агресію і закликали до посиленої молитви." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-zasudili-rosiysku-agresiyu-i-zaklikali-do-posilenoji-molitvi\\_n67815](https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-zasudili-rosiysku-agresiyu-i-zaklikali-do-posilenoji-molitvi_n67815). ["Evangelical Churches condemned Russian aggression and called for intensified prayer." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]; "Рада Євангельських Протестантських Церков України ініціює Всеукраїнську молитву." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2021.

There are also appeals to the President of Ukraine when bills are put forward that could restrict freedom of conscience and religion in Ukraine.<sup>58</sup> The members of the association issues appeals to stop showing television programs which promote psychic and occult practices,<sup>59</sup> and call on the authorities to combat the spread of gambling.<sup>60</sup>

A special time for Protestants, including Evangelical Baptists, was the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in Ukraine. The celebration took place at the state level following the decree of the President of Ukraine issued in the spring of 2016. The project was named R-500, and various Protestant churches in Ukraine collaborated fruitfully together. The celebration period lasted from the fall of 2016 and ended in late 2017. The event was chaired by Pavlo Unguryan, a member of the *Verkhovna Rada* and a member of the EBC. This was one of the best opportunities to show that Protestants in general, and Baptists in particular, are not sectarians, as they are often called, but recognized denominations valued at the highest state level--at the level of the President of the Ukrainian state. This privilege made it possible not only to hold spiritual concerts and other various evangelical events, which were still widespread in the EBC. Thanks to the R-500, thematic discussions, and classes in secondary schools, universities, libraries, etc. have become possible. It was an opportunity not only to talk about the events related to the Reformation in Europe but also to acquaint society with the views and activities of the church.<sup>61</sup>

Also, since the celebration of the anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in 2017, the EBC, along with other churches, has been actively involved in organizing and holding

---

[https://risu.ua/rada-yevangelskih-protestantskih-cerkov-ukrayini-iniciyuye-vseukrayinskumolitvu\\_n116653](https://risu.ua/rada-yevangelskih-protestantskih-cerkov-ukrayini-iniciyuye-vseukrayinskumolitvu_n116653).

["The Council of Evangelical Protestant Churches of Ukraine initiates the All-Ukrainian Prayer." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]; "Представники п'яти конфесій спільно молилися за українських військовиків." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2013. [https://risu.ua/predstavniki-p-yati-konfesi-y-spilno-molilisya-za-ukrajinskih-viyskovikiv\\_n61128](https://risu.ua/predstavniki-p-yati-konfesi-y-spilno-molilisya-za-ukrajinskih-viyskovikiv_n61128). ["Representatives of five denominations prayed together for the Ukrainian military." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>58</sup> "Християнські Церкви закликають Президента ветоувати зміни до Закону про свободу совісті." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2012. [https://risu.ua/hristiyanski-cerkvi-zaklikayut-prezidenta-vetuvati-zmini-do-zakonu-pro-svobodu-sovisti\\_n59561](https://risu.ua/hristiyanski-cerkvi-zaklikayut-prezidenta-vetuvati-zmini-do-zakonu-pro-svobodu-sovisti_n59561). ["Christian Churches call on the President to veto amendments to the Law on Freedom of Conscience." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>59</sup> "Глави євангельських Церков закликають припинити показ телепрограм з окультними та екстрасенсорними практиками." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2010. [https://risu.ua/glavi-yevangelskih-cerkov-zaklikayut-priviniti-pokaz-teleprogram-z-okultnimi-ta-ekstrasensornimi-praktikami\\_n43208](https://risu.ua/glavi-yevangelskih-cerkov-zaklikayut-priviniti-pokaz-teleprogram-z-okultnimi-ta-ekstrasensornimi-praktikami_n43208). ["Evangelical Church leaders are calling for an end to television programs with occult and psychic practices." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>60</sup> "Рада єпископів Львова закликала державну владу боротись із гральним бізнесом." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2018. [https://risu.ua/rada-yeypiskopiv-lvova-zaklikala-derzhavnu-vladu-borotis-iz-gralnim-biznesom\\_n95419](https://risu.ua/rada-yeypiskopiv-lvova-zaklikala-derzhavnu-vladu-borotis-iz-gralnim-biznesom_n95419). ["The Council of Bishops of Lviv called on the state authorities to fight the gambling business." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

<sup>61</sup> "Реформація-500: як українські протестанти використали ювілей." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2017. [https://risu.ua/reformaciya-500-yak-ukrajinski-protestanti-vikoristali-yuviley\\_n104645](https://risu.ua/reformaciya-500-yak-ukrajinski-protestanti-vikoristali-yuviley_n104645). ["Reformation 500: how Ukrainian Protestants used the anniversary." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

annual Thanksgiving in downtown Kyiv. In 2018, this event was attended by more than 300,000 people. During such holidays, pastors of various Christian denominations of Ukraine give prayers and sermons, and there is also leisure for people of all ages.<sup>62</sup>

## **Conclusion**

It is fair to say that with the fall of the USSR and Ukraine's independence in 1991, the Evangelical Baptist Church rethought its mission in society. From the strategy of survival in a state hostile to religion in Soviet times, Baptists moved to interact with state institutions in conditions of freedom, to understand the need to act in the social and even political sphere. Among Ukrainian Protestants, the Baptist denomination has achieved the greatest success in popularizing its teachings and implementing social projects. Today, the range of services of the Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Churches is represented by missionary work, Christian education, social service, work with youth and children, protection of family values, and other areas. The development of Evangelical Baptist universities testifies to the interest of a large part of the church members in obtaining higher or secondary special education. The intellectual elite of Evangelical Baptists raises the question of the relationship between Baptist phenomena such as tradition and traditionalism, trying to preserve the positive heritage of the past and avoid trends that hinder the church in its development. The positive experience of foreign Protestants in the socio-political life of Western countries inspires Ukrainian Baptists to seek ways to participate in socio-political processes for the benefit of the country. The Revolution of Dignity in late 2013 and early 2014 was the greatest turning point in understanding the attitude of the EBC to political and social processes. Many Baptists have realized that they are a "full-fledged church" in Ukrainian society, which must cast its vote and express its position. By participating in interfaith associations, the EBC seeks to convey Christian values to the government and all citizens, believing that the practice of practical piety in Christians will guarantee the presence of harmony, freedom, and goodness in society.

---

<sup>62</sup> "Сотні тисяч християн в Києві подякували Богу." Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2018. [https://risu.ua/sotni-tisyach-hristiyan-v-kiyevi-podyakovali-bogu\\_n93268](https://risu.ua/sotni-tisyach-hristiyan-v-kiyevi-podyakovali-bogu_n93268). ["Hundreds of thousands of Christians in Kyiv thanked God." Religious Information Service of Ukraine.]

## Published Sources

“UA:Культура’ щонеділі транслює богослужіння євангельських християн-баптистів.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2020. <https://www.baptyst.com/ua-kultura-shhonedili-translyuye-bogosluzhinnya-yevangelskyh-hrystyyan-baptystiv/>. ["UA: Culture broadcasts Evangelical Baptist services every Sunday." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

Банніков, Віктор. “Випуск у Харківському біблійному коледжі.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/vypusk-u-harkivskomu-biblijnomu-koledzhi/>. [Bannikov, Victor. "Graduation from Kharkiv Bible College." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Баптисти відправили на Донбас 90 тонн гуманітарної допомоги.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2018. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-vidpravili-na-donbas-90-tonn-gumanitarnoji-dopomogi\\_n91899](https://risu.ua/baptisti-vidpravili-na-donbas-90-tonn-gumanitarnoji-dopomogi_n91899). ["Baptists sent 90 tons of humanitarian aid to Donbass." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Баптисти не можуть залишатися нейтральними, коли Україна стоїть на Євромайдані, - заява богословів.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2013. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-ne-mozhut-zalishatisya-neytralnimi-koli-ukrajina-stojit-na-yevromaydani-zayava-bogosloviv\\_n66221](https://risu.ua/baptisti-ne-mozhut-zalishatisya-neytralnimi-koli-ukrajina-stojit-na-yevromaydani-zayava-bogosloviv_n66221). ["Baptists cannot remain neutral when Ukraine stands on Euromaidan," theologians said. Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Баптисти оголосили Національний піст та молитву за мир в Україні.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-ogolosili-nacionalniy-pist-ta-molitvu-za-mir-v-ukrajini\\_n70485](https://risu.ua/baptisti-ogolosili-nacionalniy-pist-ta-molitvu-za-mir-v-ukrajini_n70485). ["Baptists proclaim National Lent and Prayer for Peace in Ukraine." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Баптисти проти ‘наступу гендерної політики’, однак в Мінюсті стверджують, що Україні це не грозить.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2012. [https://risu.ua/baptisti-proti-quot-nastupu-gendernoji-politiki-quot-odnak-v-minyusti-stverdzhuyut-shcho-ukrajini-ce-ne-grozit\\_n56674](https://risu.ua/baptisti-proti-quot-nastupu-gendernoji-politiki-quot-odnak-v-minyusti-stverdzhuyut-shcho-ukrajini-ce-ne-grozit_n56674). ["Baptists oppose the 'gender policy offensive,' but the Justice Department says Ukraine is not threatened." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Буга, Є. “Соціальні доктрини протестантизму в контексті соціокультурних перетворень українського суспільства.” *Наукові праці [Чорноморського державного університету імені Петра Могили комплексу “Києво-Могилянська академія”]*. Сер. : *Соціологія*, no. 213 (2013): 35–40. [Buga, E. "Social doctrines of Protestantism in the context of socio-cultural transformations of Ukrainian society." Scientific works of the Petro Mohyla Black Sea State University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy complex]. Ser. : *Sociology*]

“В Ірпінській семінарії стартували нові програми.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/u-irpinskiy-seminariyi-startuvaly-novi-programy/>. ["New programs have started at Irpin Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Вручення свідоцтв про державне визнання духовної освіти.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2017. <https://www.baptyst.com/vruchennya-svidotstv-pro-derzhavne-vyznannya-duhovnoyi-osvity/>. ["Presentation of certificates of state recognition of spiritual education." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Вчені з церков ЄХБ об’єдналися.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/vcheni-z-tserkov-yehb-ob-yednalysya/>. ["Scientists from the ECB churches have united." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Выпуск в Ирпенской семинарии.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2017. <https://www.baptyst.com/vypusk-v-yrpenskoj-semynaryu/>. [“Graduation from Irpen Seminary.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Глави євангельських Церков закликають припинити показ телепрограм з окультними та екстрасенсорними практиками.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2010. [https://risu.ua/glavi-yevangelskih-cerkov-zaklikayut-pripiniti-pokaz-teleprogram-z-okultnimi-ta-ekstrasensornimi-praktikami\\_n43208](https://risu.ua/glavi-yevangelskih-cerkov-zaklikayut-pripiniti-pokaz-teleprogram-z-okultnimi-ta-ekstrasensornimi-praktikami_n43208). [“Evangelical Church leaders are calling for an end to television programs with occult and psychic practices.” Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Голова ВСЦ ЄХБ закликав силовиків не виконувати ганебні накази.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/golova-vsc-yehb-zaklikav-silovikiv-ne-vikonuvati-ganebni-nakazi\\_n67373](https://risu.ua/golova-vsc-yehb-zaklikav-silovikiv-ne-vikonuvati-ganebni-nakazi_n67373). [“The chairman of the WCC EHB called on the security forces not to carry out shameful orders.” Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Євангельські Церкви засудили російську агресію і закликали до посиленої молитви.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-zasudili-rosiysku-agresiyu-i-zaklikali-do-posilenoji-molitvi\\_n67815](https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-zasudili-rosiysku-agresiyu-i-zaklikali-do-posilenoji-molitvi_n67815). [“Evangelical Churches condemned Russian aggression and called for intensified prayer.” Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Євангельські Церкви і громадські діячі заснували громадську спілку ‘Всеукраїнський Собор.’” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2019. [https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-i-gromadski-diyachi-zasnuvali-gromadsku-spilku-vseukrajinskiy-sobor\\_n95968](https://risu.ua/yevangelski-cerkvi-i-gromadski-diyachi-zasnuvali-gromadsku-spilku-vseukrajinskiy-sobor_n95968). [“Evangelical Churches and public figures founded the public association ‘All-Ukrainian Council.’” Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Жаловага, А. “Антропологічні аспекти сучасного протестантського проповідування (наслідки контент-аналізу).” *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 22 (2002): 31–45. [Zhalovaga, A. “Anthropological aspects of modern Protestant preaching (consequences of content analysis).” *Ukrainian religious studies*]

“Інформація про ВРЦіРО.” Всеукраїнська Рада Церков і релігійних організацій, n.d. <https://vrciro.org.ua/ua/council/info>. [“Information about VRTsIRO.” All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations]

“Киевская богословская семинария открывает набор абитуриентов на 2017-2018 учебный год.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/kyevskaya-bogoslovskaya-semynaryua-otkryvaet-nabor-abyturyentov-na-2017-2018-uchebnyj-god/>. [“Kiev Theological Seminary opens the recruitment of applicants for the 2017-2018 academic year.” All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

Колодний, Анатолій. “Протестантизм у релігійному житті України.” In *Реформація і трансформація суспільства: досвід минулого і виклики сучасності: матеріали Міжнародної науково-практичної конференції*, 121–28. Львів, 2017. [Kolodny, Anatoliy. “Protestantism in the religious life of Ukraine.” In *Reformation and Transformation of Society: Experience of the Past and Challenges of the Present: Proceedings of the International Scientific and Practical Conference*]

Лірник, О. “Аналіз та осмислення соціального служіння п’ятидесятників, баптистів та адвентистів у сучасній Україні.” *Гілея: науковий вісник*, no. 113 (2016): 109–16. [Lirnyk, O. “Analysis and understanding of the social ministry of Pentecostals, Baptists and Adventists in modern Ukraine.” *Gilea: scientific bulletin*]

“Міжнародні зв’язки Української теологічної семінарії.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/mizhnarodni->

zv-yazky-ukrayinskoyi-teologichnoyi-seminariyi/. ["International Relations of the Ukrainian Theological Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

Мокієнко, М. “Пізнопротестантські конфесії у виборчій кампанії 2004 р.” *Культурологічний вісник*, no. 16 (2006): 48–53. [Mokienko, M. “Late Protestant denominations in the 2004 election campaign” *Cultural Bulletin*]

Мокієнко, М. “Трансформація суспільно-політичних поглядів євангельських християн-баптистів (XX – початок XXI ст.)” *Релігія та Соціум*, no. 2 (2013): 45–52. [Mokienko, M. "Transformation of socio-political views of Evangelical Baptists (XX - early XXI century)." *Religion and Society*]

Мокієнко, М. “Євангелізаційно-місіонерська діяльність пізніх протестантів в Україні (1988-2004 рр.)” In *Форум 20. Двадцять лет релігійної свободи и активной миссии в постсоветском обществе: Итоги, проблемы, перспективы евангельских церквей*, 295–313. Киев: Дух и літера, 2011. [Mokienko, M. “Evangelical Missionary Activity of Late Protestants in Ukraine (1988-2004).” In *Forum 20. Twenty years of religious freedom and active mission in post-Soviet society: Results, problems, prospects of evangelical churches*]

Нефьодов, Генадій. “Лідер навчає лідерів.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/lider-navchaye-lideriv/>. [Nefedov, Gennady. "A leader teaches leaders." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Поступая в ОБС, ты поступаешь правильно!” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2016. <https://www.baptyst.com/postupaya-v-obs-ty-postupaesh-pravyln/>. ["By entering the OBS, you are doing the right thing!" All-Ukrainian Union of the Church of Evangelical Christians-Baptists]

“Представники п’яти конфесій спільно молилися за українських військовиків.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2013. [https://risu.ua/predstavniki-p-yati-konfesi-y-spilno-molilisya-za-ukrajinskih-viyskovikov\\_n61128](https://risu.ua/predstavniki-p-yati-konfesi-y-spilno-molilisya-za-ukrajinskih-viyskovikov_n61128). ["Representatives of five denominations prayed together for the Ukrainian military." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Про РЄПЦУ.” Рада Євангельських Протестантських Церков України, n.d. <http://repcu.org/about/>. ["About REPCU." Council of Evangelical Protestant Churches of Ukraine]

“Про Союз ЄХБ.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів. Accessed March 28, 2021. <https://www.baptyst.com/pro-soyuz/>. ["On the ECB Union." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Рада Євангельських Протестантських Церков України ініціює Всеукраїнську молитву.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2021. [https://risu.ua/rada-yevangelskih-protstantskih-cerkov-ukrayini-iniciyuye-vseukrayinskumolitvu\\_n116653](https://risu.ua/rada-yevangelskih-protstantskih-cerkov-ukrayini-iniciyuye-vseukrayinskumolitvu_n116653). ["The Council of Evangelical Protestant Churches of Ukraine initiates the All-Ukrainian Prayer." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Рада єпископів Львова закликала державну владу боротись із гральним бізнесом.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2018. [https://risu.ua/rada-ye-piskopiv-lvova-zaklikala-derzhavnu-vladu-borotis-iz-gralnim-biznesom\\_n95419](https://risu.ua/rada-ye-piskopiv-lvova-zaklikala-derzhavnu-vladu-borotis-iz-gralnim-biznesom_n95419). ["The Council of Bishops of Lviv called on the state authorities to fight the gambling business." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Релігійні лідери закликають Кучму подбати про законну передачу повноважень новому Президентові.” Львівський портал, 2004. <https://portal.lviv.ua/news/2004/11/30/104643>. ["Religious leaders are urging Kuchma to take care of the legal transfer of power to the new president." Lviv portal]

“Реформація-500: як українські протестанти використали ювілей.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2017. [https://risu.ua/reformaciya-500-yak-ukrajinski-protestanti-vikoristali-yuviley\\_n104645](https://risu.ua/reformaciya-500-yak-ukrajinski-protestanti-vikoristali-yuviley_n104645). ["Reformation 500: how Ukrainian Protestants used the anniversary." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Семінарія у Львові святкує випуск.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/seminariya-u-lvovi-svyatkuje-vypusk/>. ["Seminary in Lviv celebrates graduation." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Сотні тисяч християн в Києві подякували Богу.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2018. [https://risu.ua/sotni-tisyach-hristiyan-v-kiyevi-podyakovali-bogu\\_n93268](https://risu.ua/sotni-tisyach-hristiyan-v-kiyevi-podyakovali-bogu_n93268). ["Hundreds of thousands of Christians in Kyiv thanked God." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Список організацій-партнерів ВСЦ ЄХБ.” Союз Євангельських Християн-Баптистів України, March 30, 2021. [http://old.baptyst.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=17&Itemid=143&lang=ua](http://old.baptyst.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=17&Itemid=143&lang=ua). ["List of WCC ECB partner organizations." Union of Evangelical Baptists of Ukraine]

“Статус дипломованих чи готовність служити Господу.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/status-dyplomovanyh-chy-gotovnist-sluzhyty-gospodu/>. ["Status of graduates or willingness to serve the Lord." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

Стрижачук, Федір. “Нове і старе” – в Одесі пройшла міжнародна богословська конференція.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/nove-i-stare-v-odesi-projshla-mizhnarodna-bogoslovska-konferentsiya/>. [Strizhachuk, Fedor. "New and old" - an international theological conference was held in Odessa." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“Таврійський християнський інститут отримав державну ліцензію.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2019. <https://www.baptyst.com/tavrijskyj-hrystyianskyj-instytut-otrymav-derzhavnu-litsenziyu/>. ["The Tavriya Christian Institute has received a state license." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

Трегуб, Г. “‘Читати знаки часу’: вітчизняна баптистська теологія у світлі впливів суспільних трансформацій в Україні та російсько-української війни.” *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 84 (2017): 116–25. [Tregub, G. “‘Reading the Signs of the Times’: Domestic Baptist Theology in the Light of the Influences of Social Transformations in Ukraine and the Russian-Ukrainian War.” *Ukrainian religious studies*]

“Триває набір у Кременчуцькій євангельській семінарії.” Всеукраїнський союз церков євангельських християн-баптистів, 2018. <https://www.baptyst.com/tryvaye-nabir-u-kremenchutskij-yevangelskij-seminariyi/>. ["Recruitment continues at the Kremenchug Evangelical Seminary." All-Ukrainian Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches]

“У Київській богословській семінарії ВСЦ ЄХБ відбувся навчальний семінар для військових капеланів.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2019. [https://risu.ua/u-kijivskiy-bogoslovskiy-seminariji-vsc-yehb-vidbuvsya-navchalniy-seminar-dlya-viyskovih-kapelaniv\\_n96123](https://risu.ua/u-kijivskiy-bogoslovskiy-seminariji-vsc-yehb-vidbuvsya-navchalniy-seminar-dlya-viyskovih-kapelaniv_n96123). ["A training seminar for military chaplains was held at the Kyiv Theological Seminary of the WCC ECB." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Українські баптисти мають нового представника в Мініборони.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2011. [https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-mayut-novogo-predstavnika-v-minoboroni\\_n50270](https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-mayut-novogo-predstavnika-v-minoboroni_n50270). ["Ukrainian Baptists have a new representative in the Ministry of Defense." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]



“Українські баптисти молитимуться, щоби після асоціації з ЄС нас оминуло лихо гріха та розпусти.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2013. [https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-molitimutsya-shchobi-pislya-asociaciji-z-yes-nas-ominulo-liho-griha-ta-rozpusti\\_n65607](https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-baptisti-molitimutsya-shchobi-pislya-asociaciji-z-yes-nas-ominulo-liho-griha-ta-rozpusti_n65607). ["Ukrainian Baptists will pray that after the association with the EU we will escape the scourge of sin and debauchery." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

“Уряд має дослухатися до засудження легалізації азартних ігор з боку церков різних конфесій – заява Євангельських християн-баптистів.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2015. [https://risu.ua/uryad-maye-dosluhatisya-do-zasudzhennya-legalizaciji-azartnih-igor-z-boku-cerkov-riznih-konfesiji-zayava-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv\\_n77364](https://risu.ua/uryad-maye-dosluhatisya-do-zasudzhennya-legalizaciji-azartnih-igor-z-boku-cerkov-riznih-konfesiji-zayava-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv_n77364). ["The government must listen to the condemnation of the legalization of gambling by churches of different denominations," said Evangelical Baptists. Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Филипчук, Світлана. “Трансформації нових медіа християнських конфесій України.” *СХІД*, no. 5(157) (2018): 92–98. [Filipchuk, Svetlana. "Transformations of New Media of Christian Denominations in Ukraine."]

Християнський Научно-Апологетический Центр. Accessed March 29, 2021. <https://scienceandapologetics.com/>. [Christian Scientific Apologetic Center]

“Християнські Церкви закликають Президента ветоувати зміни до Закону про свободу совісті.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2012. [https://risu.ua/hristiianski-cerkvi-zaklikayut-prezidenta-vetuvati-zmini-do-zakonu-pro-svobodu-sovisti\\_n59561](https://risu.ua/hristiianski-cerkvi-zaklikayut-prezidenta-vetuvati-zmini-do-zakonu-pro-svobodu-sovisti_n59561). ["Christian Churches call on the President to veto amendments to the Law on Freedom of Conscience." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Центр Апологетичних Досліджень. Accessed March 29, 2021. <http://www.apologetika.org.ua/>. [Center for Apologetic Research]

“Церкви братства євангельських християн-баптистів посилено молитимуться та поститимуть за цілісність України.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/cerkvi-bratstva-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv-posileno-molitimutsya-ta-postititmut-za-cilisnist-ukrajini\\_n68677](https://risu.ua/cerkvi-bratstva-yevangelskih-hristiyan-baptistiv-posileno-molitimutsya-ta-postititmut-za-cilisnist-ukrajini_n68677). ["Churches of the Evangelical Baptist Brotherhood will pray and fast for the integrity of Ukraine." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Чаплинський, В. “Генезис и типология баптизма и тенденции развития его вероучения в постсоветский период.” *Релігія та соціум*, no. 1–2 (2014): 290–98. [Chaplinsky, V. "Genesis and typology of Baptism and tendencies in the development of its doctrine in the post-Soviet period." *Religiya and social*]

Черенков, М. “Трансформації соціально-богословської позиції українського євангельського протестантизму.” *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 45 (2008): 135–40. [Cherenkov, M. "Transformations of the Socio-Theological Position of Ukrainian Evangelical Protestantism." *Ukrainian religious studies*]

“Щонеділі до 25 травня на Майдані молитимуться за стабілізацію, єдність та цілісність України.” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2014. [https://risu.ua/shchonedili-do-25-travnnya-na-maydani-molitimutsya-za-stabilizaciyu-yednist-ta-cilisnist-ukrajini\\_n67889](https://risu.ua/shchonedili-do-25-travnnya-na-maydani-molitimutsya-za-stabilizaciyu-yednist-ta-cilisnist-ukrajini_n67889). ["Every Sunday until May 25, Maidan will pray for the stabilization, unity and integrity of Ukraine." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Юраш, Андрій. “Українські Церкви і Президентські вибори: шлюби з любови і за розрахунком (1 част.)” Релігійно-Інформаційна Служба України, 2005. [https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-cerkvi-i-prezidentski-vibori-shlyubi-z-lyubovi-i-za-rozrahunkom-1-chast\\_n8904](https://risu.ua/ukrajinski-cerkvi-i-prezidentski-vibori-shlyubi-z-lyubovi-i-za-rozrahunkom-1-chast_n8904). [Yurash, Andrew. "Ukrainian Churches and the Presidential Elections: Marriages of Love and Calculation (Part 1)." Religious Information Service of Ukraine]

Яроцький, П. “Протестантизм в Україні: динаміка змін. Порівняльний аналіз інституалізації братства євангельських християн-баптистів і організації Свідків

Єгови.” *Людина і світ*, no. 7 (2004): 2–10. [Yarotsky, P. “Protestantism in Ukraine: dynamics of change. A comparative analysis of the institutionalization of the Evangelical Baptist fraternity and the organization of Jehovah's Witnesses.” *Human and world*]

Яроцький, П. “Стан пізньопротестантських конфесій.” *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 46 (2008): 302–31. [Yarotsky, P. “The state of late Protestant denominations.” *Ukrainian religious studies*]

Яроцький, П. “Трансформація пізньопротестантських конфесій в незалежній Україні.” *Софія. Гуманітарно-релігієзнавчий вісник*, no. 2 (2016): 77–84. [Yarotsky, P. “Transformation of Late Protestant Denominations in Independent Ukraine.” *Sofia. Humanities and Religion Bulletin*]

Яроцький, П. “Інституалізація протестантизму як вихід у світ.” *Українське релігієзнавство*, no. 35 (2005): 238–61. [Yarotsky, P. “Institutionalization of Protestantism as a way out.” *Ukrainian religious studies*]