

RESEARCH GROUP
RESEARCH WITH POTENTIAL FOR KNOWLEDGE
TRANSFER OR INNOVATION

RESEARCH AREA
HUMANITIES (RELIGION AND
THEOLOGY, HISTORY, PHILOLOGY)

THE CHRISTIAN APOLOGY AGAINST THE DUALISM OF EASTERN CHRISTIAN HERESIES IN THE PANOPLIA DOGMATICA BY EUTHYMIOS ZIGABENOS



PROJECT GUIDELINES

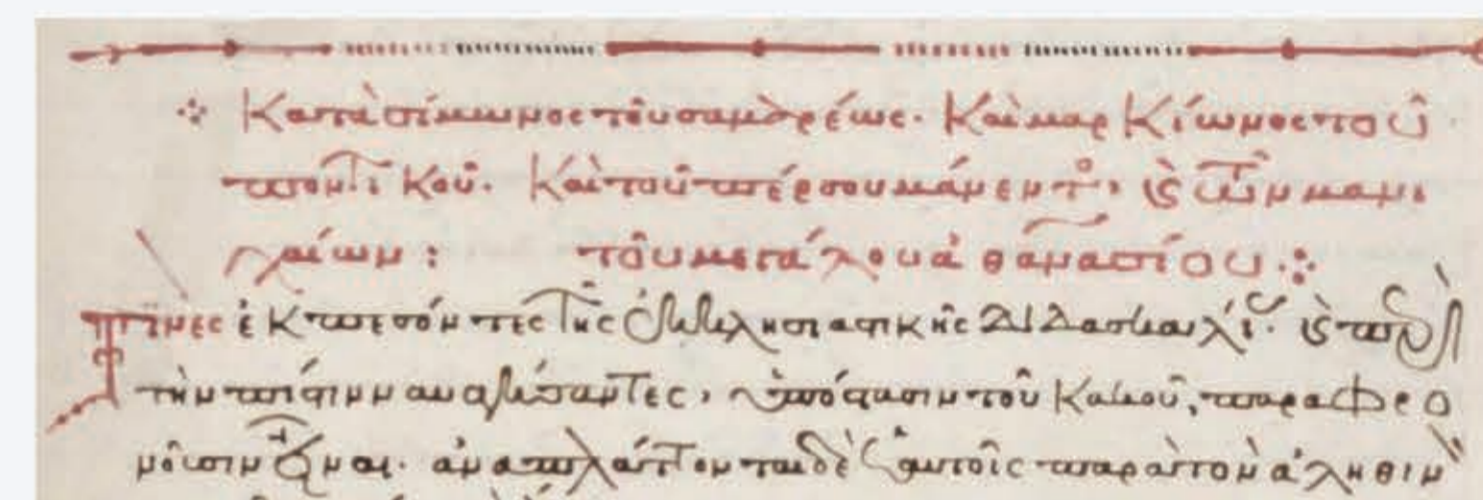
In order to achieve this goal, the following **tasks** have been set: 1. collecting specific data on the revival of dualism in the 21st century; 2. working with archives in Thessaloniki and on Mount Athos; 3. working on titles 9, 23, 24 and 26 of the "Full Armour of Belief (Panoplia Dogmatica)" by Euthymios Zigabenos; 4. analysis of fundamental reasons for the emergence of dualistic heresies and an assessment of the relevance of Euthymios Zigabenos's Christian apologetics in our times; 5. publishing, within the framework of the two-year project, two publications in journals indexed in the Web of Science; 6. implementing knowledge transfer with the Center Ceraneum and Supraśl Academy; 7. building a website presenting dualistic teachings from an Orthodox-apologetic perspective and their recurrences today; 8. Inclusion of four postdoctoral fellows, four doctoral candidates, one young scholar and one student in the research.



RESULTS

Within **the first stage** of the project implementation, the following results were achieved:

- concrete data on the revival of dualism in Europe in the 21st century were collected;
- parts of the manuscripts Vat.gr. 666, Paris.gr. 1232A, Camb.Tr. Coll., MS B.8.9, Oxf. Barocci 101, Fell 19, Vatop. 162-164, 229; Dion. 184; Iber. 281, 284 were studied;
- research work was carried out with archives in Thessaloniki and on Mount Athos, with some Athos manuscripts being studied *de visu*;
- work is in course on a critical edition of the Greek text of the four titles on dualistic heresies in the "Euthymios Zigabenos" with a parallel translation into Bulgarian;
- knowledge transfer was realized with the *Center Ceraneum* through presenting two papers at Colloquia Ceranea VI and giving a lecture in *Supraśl Academy*;
- one publication was carried out in the journal *Studia Ceranea*, индексирано в *Web of Science*: *Dimo Penkov, Ivan Yovchev, Essence and Ways of Infiltration of the Paulician Heresy in the Medieval Bulgarian Lands.* - *Studia Ceranea*, Vol. 14 (2024), 71-84.



Κατὰ Σίμωνος τοῦ Σαμαρέως, καὶ Μαρκίωνος τοῦ Ποντικῆ, καὶ τοῦ Πέρσου Μάνεντος, καὶ τῶν Μανιχαίων, τοῦ μεγάλου Ἀθανασίου

Τινὲς ἐκπεσόντες τῆς ἐκκλησιαστικῆς διδασκαλίας, καὶ περὶ τὴν πίστιν ναυαγήσαντες, ὑπόστασιν τοῦ κακοῦ παραφρονοῦσιν εἶναι. Ἀναπλάττονται δὲ ἑαυτοῖς παρὰ τὸν ἀληθινόν...

Срещу Симон Самарянин, Маркион Понтийски, перса Мани и манихейте от великия Атанасий

Някои, като отпаднаха от църковното учение и претърпяха крушение във вярата, безразсъдно твърдят, че злото има ипостас. Те си създават наред с истинния...

CONCLUSION

The Christian apology of Euthymios Zigabenos against the Eastern dualistic heresies is still relevant today and acquires a new dimension in the context of the claims to build a new supra-confessional spiritual identity in Europe.

The issues set out in the research project are closely related to the debate about the specificity of Orthodox identity in the globalizing world.

The study of the theological content of the "Full Armour of Belief (Panoplia Dogmatica)" by Euthymios Zigabenos reveals its relevance today, and can be used as a corrective to the "comprehensive supra-confessional spiritual identity" sought by some in Europe. It is also the basis of the knowledge transfer carried out with the Ceraneum Research Center at the University of Lodz (Poland) and the *Supraśl Academy* (Poland).

The successful implementation of the project's first stage gives us confidence that at the end of its term the set goals and objectives will be achieved.

INTRODUCTION

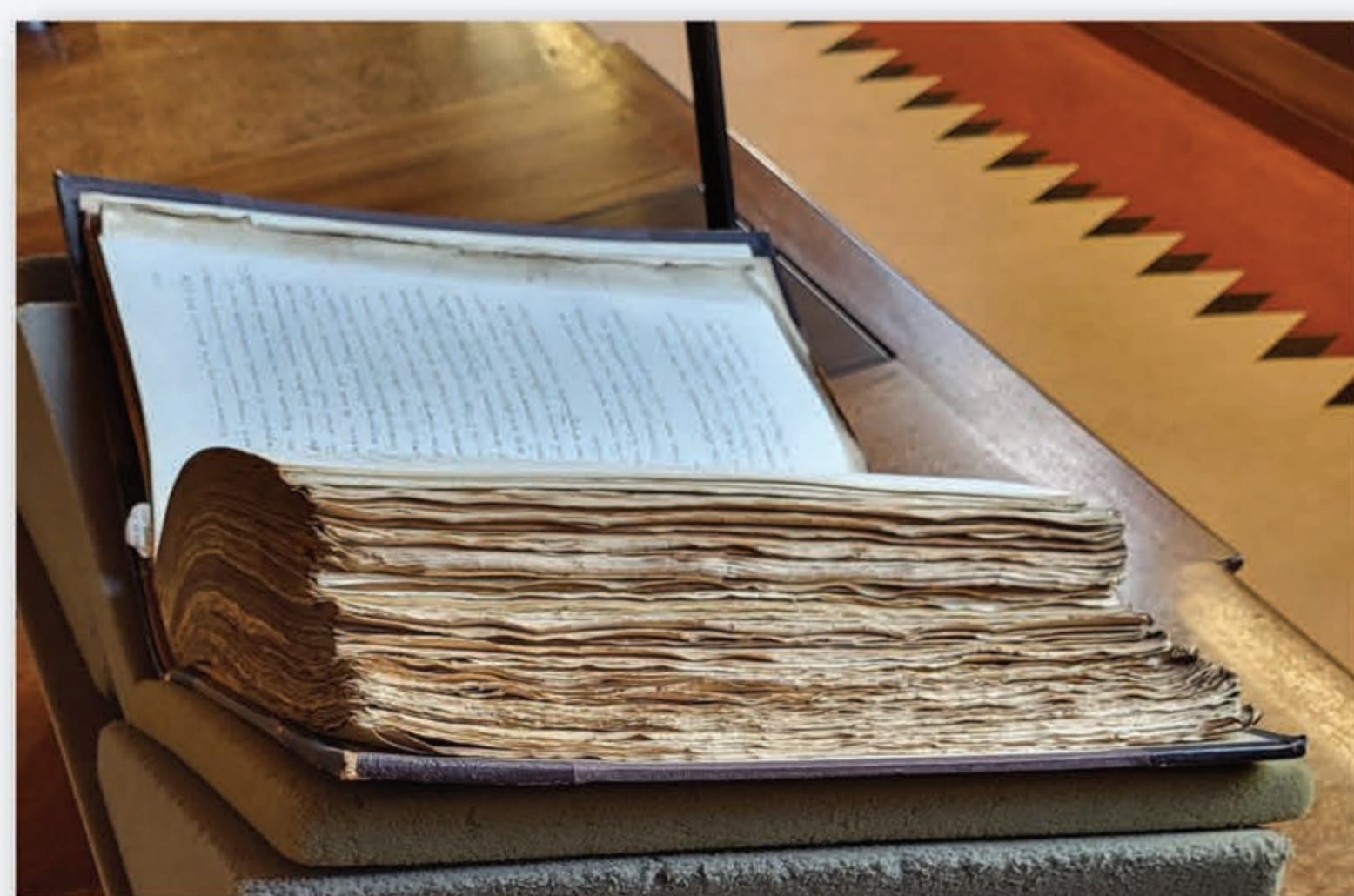
The project aims to assess the relevance of the Christian apology in the "Full Armour of Belief (Panoplia Dogmatica)" by Euthymios Zigabenos (c. 1050 – c. 1120) against the Eastern dualistic heresies in the perspective of the 21st century. The new look at this work in the context of the challenges of modernity and the analysis of the theological arguments in it acquire particular importance in a pan-European context, which is determined by the fact that before our eyes conditions emerged for a relapsing spread of dualistic heresies to the countries of Western Europe. Currently, there is a lack of theological-apologetic research on the current dimensions of the issue under consideration, and the implementation of this project fills this void.



METHODOLOGY

The research tools are fully consistent with the specifics of the project. The following **methods** were used:

- comparative-apologetic;
- historical-dogmatic;
- historical-philological;
- comparative-historical;
- hermeneutic;
- textual-comparative.



HEAD OF THE RESEARCH GROUP
PROF. DIMO PENKOV, PHD

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP
PROF. IVAN CHRISTOV, PHD
ASSIST. PROF. SHTONI KOKOUDEV
(FR. SAVA), PHD
POSTDOC STELIAN KUNEV
(FR. STELIAN), PHD

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

POSTDOC LYUBOMIRA STEFANOVA,
PHD
POSTDOC YONKO BONOV, PHD
POSTDOC BORIANA NANOVA, PHD
POSTDOC MARTA GEORGIEVA, PHD
PHD STUDENT ALENA KEREZOVA

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

PHD STUDENT BISER BOJKOV
PHD STUDENT NINA KOMAROVA
MA TODOR TIHOV
BA STUDENT VESELINA VELCHEVA