



11th Central and Eastern European  
Conference of the European Society  
of Women in Theological Research

**“EMPOWERING WOMEN IN CONFLICT:  
ECUMENICAL ENGAGEMENT FOR  
PEACE AND JUSTICE”**

August  
28th – 31st  
2018



Photo: Oleksii Furman

Lviv,  
Ukraine

PROGRAM

## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

In the last years (2014-2017) Ukraine has witnessed to a growth of civil society on various levels, including gender equality and participation. In fact, participation in the Maidan protests increased civic and political awareness and agency among women. Almost in equal numbers men and women participated in the Maidan movement. The roles of women were manifold: some of them were engaged in supportive tasks like kitchen work and cleaning; sorting donated clothes, food, and medication; coordinating logistics; and writing press reports. Significantly, women were also active in riskier situations such as on-site doctors and nurses, on-the-scene journalists and photographers, and lawyers for arrested protesters. When the protests turned more violent, women were excluded from the barricades. Nevertheless, some female protesters still joined the clashes and prepared Molotov cocktails and even threw them themselves. Furthermore, three *Zhinocha Sotnias* (Women's Squads) were organized on Maidan. In April of 2014 when began a military Russian-Ukrainian conflict in the East of Ukraine this fact sharpened the controversial yet prominent role of women in military actions. Ukrainian Military Law limits women's access to a variety of military specialties. However, this recent military violent conflict led to an inclusion of women in the military services, previously restricted for various reasons. More than a thousand women joined the Ukrainian Armed Forces as well as volunteer battalions as of October 2015. Hundreds of women have left their daily duties and began to volunteer as well as to serve as paramedics and doctors in the zone of armed conflict, risking their lives to ensure efficiency and combat readiness of military units. Importantly to note, in military conflicts civilians, especially women, have become targets of violence and ethnic cleansings. At the same time, women have become active negotiators in bringing the conflict to an end, facilitators of overcoming societal prejudices and active players in establishing peace.

We invite women in theological and religious research to discuss the multiplicity of women's experience in situations of war and violence and to learn from these experiences; to ask to what religious and spiritual resources do women refer regarding warfare and peacebuilding; to discuss what are the essential elements for a theology of peacebuilding; to explore the religious and spiritual practices (rituals, devotions, prayers, pilgrimages etc) that have emerged or have been rediscovered and transformed as women's responses to warfare and post conflict suffering; to analyze why women become victims of violence; to look for insights from personal stories; to challenge the notion that war and peacemaking is men's domain; to debate how to promote women's role in peacebuilding processes and how to empower women to become equal partners in peace processes; to reframe our understanding of modern warfare and women's roles in it.

**28.08.2018**

16:30 *Registration / Lobby, Patriarchal House*

18:00 *Opening Prayer / Annunciation Chapel, Patriarchal House*

**Lyudmyla Ivanyuk, Kateryna Buchko** (Ukraine)

18:30 *Opening Greetings / Conference Hall, Patriarchal House*

**Halyna Teslyuk** (ESWTR Chair Woman, Ukraine)

*Inaugural Talk*

**Elena Volkova** (Russia)

“Agenda for a Just World: ESWTR Quest in Eastern Europe”

19:30 *Welcome Reception / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

21:00 *Evening Prayer / Annunciation Chapel, Patriarchal House*

**Elena Volkova, Irina Skulkina** (Russia)

**29.08.2018**

8:00 *Breakfast / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

9:00 *Morning Prayer / St John the Theologian Chapel,  
Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

**Kristina Ivanauskiene, Ruta Dauksiene** (Lithuania)

*Morning Plenary Sessions / Conference Hall,  
Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

9:30 **Ekaterini Tsalampouni** (Greece)  
“Women as Bearers of the Good News of Peace and  
Hope in the Gospels”

10:30 **Halyna Teslyuk** (Ukraine)  
“Rereading Biblical Heroines Deborah, Jael and Judith  
Contextually: A Look from Ukraine”

11:30 *Coffee Break / Atrium, Faculty of Philosophy and  
Theology*

12:00 **Jadranka Rebeka Anić, Ana Marija Raffai** (Croatia)  
“Das Schweigen für das Vaterland im  
hermeneutischen Schlüssel des Geschlechts und der  
radikalen Gewaltfreiheit“

13:00 *Lunch / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

## Afternoon Sessions

14:30 **Group 1, Conference Hall / Faculty of Philosophy and Theology**  
ENGLISH

**Sabine Dievenkorn** (Chile/Israel)  
“Women and their Strategies of Survival in Latin America and a Translational Theology”

**Olha Lidovska** (Ukraine)  
“Jewish Women and Their Strategies of Survival during World War II in Lviv, Galicia”

**Dorota Jewdokimow** (Poland)  
“Poet towards the Revolution. Strategies of Existence Familiarization in Marina Tsvetaeva’s Notes”

**Group 2, Room 103 / Faculty of Philosophy and Theology**  
GERMAN

**Elżbieta Adamiak** (Germany/Poland)  
“Nation als Kategorie der Theologie und der Geschlechterforschung”

**Ana Thea Filipović** (Croatia)  
“Geschlechtergerechtigkeit in kirchlicher Seelsorge”

**Larissza Hrotkó** (Hungary)  
“Galizianerinnen im Krieg. Sprache und Identität”

16:00 *Coffee Break / Atrium, Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

16:30 *Group 1 and 2, Conference Hall / Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

**Lucreția Maria Paraschiva Vasilescu**

**Madalina-Maria Toader**

**Maria Yvonne Bancila** (Romania)

“Education against Violence in the Religion Class. The Contribution of Female Teachers of Religion”

**Nadja Furlan Štante** (Slovenia)

“Women and Vulnerability: Between Violence and Religious Peace-building”

**Magdalena Šipka** (Czech Republic)

“Women's Bodies between Violence and Love: Issues of Feminist Christian Movement in Czech Republic”

18:00 **Transfer to the City Center**  
**City Tour**

19:30 *Dinner / Restaurant “Ratusha”, Rynok Sq. 1*

**30.08.2018**

8:00 *Breakfast / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

9:00 *Morning Prayer / St John the Theologian Chapel,  
Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

**Madalina-Maria Toader**  
**Bancila Maria Yvonne** (Romania)

*Morning Plenary Sessions / Conference Hall,  
Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

9:30 **Isabel Phiri** (Switzerland)  
“Women and Ecumenical Engagement for Peace in  
South Sudan”

10:30 **Heleen Zorgdrager** (Netherlands)  
“Women’s Peacebuilding Initiatives in Ukraine as a  
Source of Ecumenical Theology”

11:30 *Coffee Break / Atrium, Faculty of Philosophy and  
Theology*

12:00 **Nadezhda Beliakova** (Russia)  
“The Question of Diaconesses in Orthodox Churches:  
Peacekeeping Potential or the Source of Conflict”

13:00 *Lunch / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

## Afternoon Sessions

14:30 **Group 1, Conference Hall / Faculty of Philosophy and Theology**  
ENGLISH

**Dzintra Iliško** (Latvia)

“Mending a Torn World: Women as Peacebuilders in the Interreligious Dialogue”

**Justyna Melonowska** (Poland)

“Mother and Act: Towards a New Philosophy of Maternity”

**Beata Zaworska** (Poland)

“S. Adelgund Kunigunda Tumińska. She Gave her Life to Save Others.”

**Group 2, Room 103 / Faculty of Philosophy and Theology**  
ENGLISH

**Monica Ruset Oanca** (Romania)

“Women’s Roles in Ending a Conflict in Medieval Times: Examples from Literary Texts”

**Tina Lasquety-Reyes** (Germany)

“Hildegard of Bingen: Prophetess and Healer in Two Wars”

**Olha Bezhuk** (Ukraine)

“Social-Charitable Work of Olha Levytska Basarab during World War I and in Early Post-War period”



16:00 *Coffee Break / Atrium, Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

16:30 Group 1 and 2, **Conference Hall / Faculty of Philosophy and Theology**

**Tetyana Lapan** (Ukraine)

“The Experience of Armed Conflict in the East of Ukraine in the Biographical Narratives of Women”

**Oksana Khmelnytska** (Kyiv)

**Iryna Tkach** (Mariupol)

**Iryna Malik** (Severodonetsk)

Trauma therapy centers supported by Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service “Normalizing ‘abnormal’ – Women’s Daily Practices in Forced Coexistence with the War”

**Svitlana Krot** (Kyiv)

NGO "Dukh i Litera" / Dialogue in Action

"Dialogue in Action. Empowering Women in Conflict"

19:00 *Dinner / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

20:00 *Evening Prayer / Annunciation Chapel, Patriarchal House*

**Klara Lorencz** (Hungary)

**31.08.2018**

8:00 *Breakfast / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

9:00 *Morning Prayer / St John the Theologian Chapel,  
Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

**Miroslava Holubova**

**Bedriska Kotmelova** (Czech Republic)

*Morning Plenary Sessions / Conference Hall,  
Faculty of Philosophy and Theology*

9:30 **Oksana Kis** (Ukraine)

“Christian Faith and Religious Practices as  
Empowering Experiences among Ukrainian Women  
Political Prisoners in the Gulag”

10:30 **Svitlana Hurkina** (Ukraine)

“Women's Role in the Greco (Greek) Catholic Church  
during Its Catacomb Period (1946-1989)”

11:30 *Coffee Break / Atrium, Faculty of Philosophy and  
Theology*

12:00 **Jadranka Rebeka Anić** (ESWTR Networking Central and  
Eastern Europe)

**Marta Bohachevska-Chomiak** (USA/Ukraine)

**Halyna Teslyuk/Orysia Bila** (Ukraine)

Final notes, evaluation, planning next conference

13:00 *Lunch / Dining Hall, Patriarchal House*

## Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.*

*O Divine Master,  
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.*

*Amen.*

## Venue

Ukrainian Catholic University, Faculty of Philosophy and Theology  
Khutorivka St., 35-A, Lviv 79077, Ukraine

## ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

**Halyna Teslyuk (PhD)** – Associate Professor  
in Old Testament (Faculty of Philosophy and Theology, UCU)  
Coordinator of Women's Studies Program at UCU

**Heleen Zorgdrager (PhD)** – Visiting Professor at the Institute of Ecumenical Studies  
(UCU), Professor of Systematic Theology at the Protestant Theological University in  
Amsterdam

**Olha Maletska (MA)** – Academic Assistant (Women's Studies Program, UCU)

**Uliana Kakhnych (BA)** – MA Student in Theology  
(Faculty of Philosophy and Theology, UCU)

## Contact

email: [eswtr2018@gmail.com](mailto:eswtr2018@gmail.com) | Halyna Teslyuk +380684354665 | Olha Maletska +380671768745