

DESCRIPTION FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC

The history of Christianity is the history of heresy. Just after accepting the Christian faith in Eastern rite from Byzantium, Bulgarians became known as the creators and propagators of the new dualistic heresy – Bogomilism, which over the next several centuries affects not only the Balkan Peninsula, but also part of Western Europe. The cultural and religious exchange within *Pax Byzantina* and the political context of the thirteenth and fifteenth century enable the emergence of new heterodox trends and heretics, who the Eastern Church must manage to preserve the purity of its doctrine. Over some period of time, not only Jews, but also people professing other forms of Christianity (Catholics, Armenians) are considered heretics. Ironically, it is anti-heretic works and anathemas included in various collections of liturgical texts that now constitute the primary source for the studies on the history of heterodox movements in the area of Orthodox Slavs. The analysis and publication of these medieval texts in their full form as well as the presence of interrelations between them constitute the primary goal of this project. The project's methodological basis is interdisciplinary due to the fact that studies on heresies are a research area on the borderline of history, Slavic studies, Byzantine studies, medieval studies, and theology. The project team consists of scientists with a diverse research profile. The expected outcome of the grant will include critical editions of unpublished Slavic anti-heretic texts, as well as new findings established based on the sources already known by specialists.