

## THE ORTHODOX ACADEMY OF CRETE (OAC) ...

... is an ideal venue for our concern. Both theologically and in the spirit of the Orthodox practice of responsibility for creation, it represents in an exemplary way a Christian attitude that for many is still theory or wishful thinking. It is not only a conference venue, but also one of the two official project partners.

Its scenic location automatically conveys the experience of beauty that the encyclical *Laudato si'* also focuses on as a lever for social-ecological change. The Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople placed the Day of Creation at the centre of Christian mindfulness as early as 1989.

With the Institute for Theology and Ecology as part of the OAC, a nature trail (as a meditation path), a generous PV plant and monastery and icon museum in the neighbourhood, the conference house operation alone offers inspiration and a space where thoughts, dialogue and exchange can unfold:

*A spiritual language of longing and healing!*

Project is funded by the European Commission.

„Funded by the European Union. However, the views and opinions expressed are those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Executive Agency for Education and Culture (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the EACEA can be held responsible.“

## REGISTRATION

### LOCATION AND TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Orthodox Academy of Crete (OAC), Kolympari/Chania

<https://www.oac.gr/en/>

<https://www.oac.gr/en/epikoinwnia/topothesia-prosvasi/>

### COST PER PERSON:

15. - 19.09.2023

Single room incl. all meals: 420 euros

Double room incl. all meals: 320 euros

One extra night, if available: Single room

incl. breakfast: 70 euros

Double room incl. breakfast: 45 euros

Not included are the costs for travel, entrance fees etc.

Upon application (informal), students and vicars can be granted a subsidy of up to 500 euros.

Contact: Dr. Hubert Meisinger, [h.meisinger@zgv.info](mailto:h.meisinger@zgv.info)

The number of participants is limited for capacity reasons. Prompt registration is recommended.

### REGISTRATION DIRECTLY WITH THE OAC:

Katerina Karkala-Zormpa  
Orthodox Academy of Crete  
73006 Kolympari-Chania  
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[www.oac.gr](http://www.oac.gr)

**Payments in advance by bank transfer or credit card/cash on arrival.**

**Conference language:** English

### Preparation and management:

Dr. Hubert Meisinger (Protestant Church in Hesse and Nassau),

Katerina Karkala (Orthodox Academy of Crete),

Dr. Michael Rentz (Project Manager »sustainable preaching«)

[www.sustainable-preaching.org](http://www.sustainable-preaching.org)

# »SUSTAINABLE PREACHING«

A mutual spiritual  
learning experience  
in a unique Orthodox  
environment



Titelbild: ©www.oac.gr

## CONFERENCE

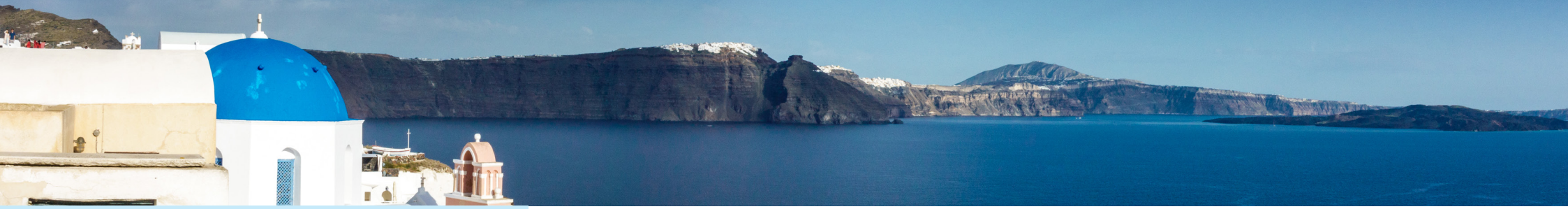


Kofinanziert von der  
Europäischen Union



ZENTRUM GESELLSCHAFTLICHE  
VERANTWORTUNG  
DER EVANGELISCHEN KIRCHE  
IN HESSEN UND NASSAU





## INVITATION

Become part of our Erasmus+ project  
»sustainable preaching«! The pioneering phase will take place in September 2023 at a joint conference bringing together partners interested in theology and ecology.

**The aim:** to rediscover Christian spirituality as a source of strength.

**The idea:** we all speak the same language, a language of longing and healing in the European and ecumenical context, which finds little space in the modern world.

**The thesis:** »living networks« for the protection of the climate, for the preservation of biodiversity and creation together with its immanent beauty are only possible on this basis.

We would like to ask - starting from the spiritual foundations of the Eastern and Western Churches - about the »how«: How does effective action arise from Christian responsibility? For this we need your experiences and ideas for a common exchange and the development of steps into the future!

Your

Dr. Hubert Meisinger, ZGV of the EKHN

Katerina Karkala, Orthodoxe Akademie of Crete (OAK)

Dr. Michael Rentz (Project Manager »sustainable preaching«)

## PROGRAM

### • FRIDAY, 15.09.23

Arrival, 19:30 dinner, time to arrive and guided tour of the Orthodox Academy

### • SATURDAY, 16.09.23

**Daily motto:** »From within ...«

Getting to know the different spiritualities and commonalities in the Western and Eastern Christian Churches; spirituality as a source of strength (or unique Christian feature?) to face the social-ecological challenges.

- Objectives and challenges of the project

#### • Introductory presentations:

- »Orthodox Spirituality«
- »Reformed/Protestant/Catholic Spirituality«

- Discussion Spirituality creates a new language: Longing, reconciliation, healing - counterpoints to our economic, possessive and performance language

#### **Lunch break**

- Exchange of experiences in groups: Spirituality as a source of synergy and strength - successes, failures
- Collection of results / discussion in plenary: How »living networks« are created.

### • SUNDAY, 17.09.23

**Daily motto:** »... outward.«

How does Christian spiritual power flow into concrete action?

- Worship / spiritual impulse, prayer,

Sermon, followed by a visit to the icon museum in the monastery, Katerina Karkala, OAC

#### **Lunch break**

- »Spiritualität und Praxis« - How can the Transfer the results of the lecture to communities, politics and society?
- Cooperation between the generations: a target-oriented approach?
- »Is preaching sustainable with sustainability?«, Dr. Tamas Kodacsy, Budapest
- Workshop: Guide »sustainable preaching«

### • MONDAY, 18.09.23

**Daily motto:** »Networking«

Christian faith lives in and out of community (Mt 18:20: „Where two or three ...“). How does community become a source of strength for change?

• Visit to the nature trail / meditation path: dialogue with nature, creature and God, followed by a tour of the OAC's photovoltaic system, Antonis Kalogerakis, OAC

#### **Lunch break**

- Experience with »living networks« (ECEN)
- »Paradising«, Dr. Constantin Gröhn, Hamburg
- Ecumenism and European communality as a supporting foundation in the face of social-ecological challenges
- »living networks« and »teaching the teachers« as a vision for creation care and climate protection

### • TUESDAY, 19.09.23

Spiritual impulse / from 8:00 a.m. Breakfast, conclusion in plenary and farewell, departure

