

Establishment of an Advisory Board for the Postgraduate Program “Orthodox Christian Theology and Religious Pluralism” (ORTH)

The Assembly of the Single-Department School of Humanities of the Hellenic Open University (HOU), having taken into consideration:

- a)** Government Gazette (FEK) No. 2009/05-06-2018/Issue B for the re-establishment of the Postgraduate Program in accordance with Law 4485/2017, titled “Studies in Orthodox Theology” of the School of Humanities of the Hellenic Open University, and the approval of its organization and operation,
- b)** that the ORTH Postgraduate Program was evaluated by an External Evaluation and Accreditation Committee (June 25, 2024–July 7, 2024),
- c)** the External Evaluation Report for the ORTH Postgraduate Program,
- d)** the minutes of the **1st meeting (11-11-2025)** of the Program Board of the ORTH Postgraduate Program, whose sole agenda item was the Proposal to Establish an Advisory Committee for the ORTH Postgraduate Program,
- e)** the Proposal to establish an Advisory Board for the Postgraduate Program “Orthodox Christian Theology and Religious Pluralism” submitted by the Program Director of ORTH, Professor E. Boliaki,

decided unanimously to establish an Advisory Board for the ORTH Postgraduate Program, consisting of:

1. **Vasileios Karagiannis**, Metropolitan of Famagusta & Constantia
2. **Vasileios Karapostolis**, Emeritus Professor of Culture and Communication, Department of Communication and Mass Media, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)
3. **Kalliopi–Phaedra Kalafati**, Deputy Director General, Byzantine and Christian Museum of Athens
4. **Thomas Mavromoustakos**, Professor, Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), and National Hellenic Research Foundation

5. **Aikaterini Tsekou**, Education Consultant for Theology, with jurisdiction over the Secondary Education Directorates of B' Athens, West Attica, and Boeotia
6. **Vasiliki Flessa**, Classicist, Lawyer, Journalist

The role of the Advisory Board will be exclusively consultative, acting, on the one hand, as a “bridge” between the Program and society/the labor market, thereby providing the Program with information, advice, and guidance on educational, research, and professional matters; and, on the other hand, as a complementary source alongside the information the Program receives from other academic institutions and bodies.

Specifically, the Committee will:

- examine and evaluate the changing needs of the labor market in the fields of the Program’s academic/research subjects,
- propose action plans enabling the Program to successfully meet new economic, technological, and scientific challenges, and
- support the achievement of the Program’s strategic objectives.

Indicative responsibilities of the Committee:

- Provide advice on the policy and strategy adopted by the Program to achieve its objectives.
- Identify the changing needs of the labor market in areas related to the Program’s academic and research subjects and determine ways to meet these new needs.
- Provide recommendations on the knowledge and skills the Program should offer and on the attainment of excellence.
- Provide advice and recommendations to enhance the Program’s outreach, to establish partnerships with labor market stakeholders, and to promote its graduates.
- Undertake initiatives to improve the Program’s reputation within the Greek and international academic environment.
- Connect the Program with external networks in public and private entities, with the aim of attracting scholarships, internship positions, opportunities for postgraduate studies, and business collaborations.
- Participate in the Program’s external evaluation procedures.

The term of office of the Advisory Board will be **two years**, commencing on the date the establishment of the Committee is approved by the University Senate. Its members may be reappointed, and the work they provide will be voluntary.

The Committee will meet, upon invitation from the Program Director, **twice a year** or whenever deemed necessary.

The proposals of the Advisory Board will be communicated to the Program's Committee, which will make the final decisions regarding their potential implementation and utilization.