



# Institute of Ecumenical Studies

Ukrainian Catholic University





### **Pope Benedict XVI**

There's no doubt that UCU can provide very valuable support to ecumenical work. However, it should be noted that in this ecumenical endeavour certain difficulties still remain. It is necessary not to lose hope in the face of difficulties, but to proceed with prayer and love for a long time. The dialogue of love from its nature supports and highlights the dialogue of truth.



### **Pope Francis**

Today ecumenism is to be done by walking together. And on the things that unite us and separate us, I say: don't make us discuss things of doctrine, leave this to the theologians. They know better than we do. I believe that the one way is dialogue, a sincere dialogue without things held under the table. Sincere and face to face.



### **Former General Secretary of the World Council of Churches (Germany), Dr. Conrad Reiser**

The religious situation in Ukraine, with its historical memory of a tragic community conflict, could be suitable for research in the perspective of building trust. Since without establishing of at least the minimum of basic trust and confidence among different communities it is unlikely that a true ecumenical relationship can be created.



### **Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I**

The relationship between Catholic and Orthodox Churches has reached such a level of maturity, which enables them to meet, communicate and specifically anticipate the restoration of their unity. Over the course of fifty years, thanks to the openness, that the Second Vatican Council has made possible, we have passed a long way. The process continues. We are called to find the same words that describe the same history of the Church, the same ecclesial reality, plural in its forms, and the desire to be united in their faith, which one day will manifest in the celebration of the common Eucharist.



### **President of the UCU, Bishop Borys (Gudziak)**

“ We are convinced that the further development of Ukraine as a modern European state can only benefit from the fact that the rich heritage and spiritual experience of Kyiv Christianity will be comprehended, researched and studied at the appropriate scientific level. Discovering, multiplying and revealing to the whole world the priceless treasures of Eastern Christianity, the UCU also seeks to contribute to the world ecumenical and cultural dialogue between the Christian East and the West.



### **Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, Fr. Bohdan Prakh**

“ The Metropolitan Sheptyts'ky's dream was to build an own - that is, a free, independent university, a Ukrainian university with a distinct patriotic upbringing, and most importantly – a Catholic, where in teaching and in studies, and in the foundation of the upbringing, Christian values should be. It is our university that is built upon the principles so important for the Metropolitan: sacrifice of martyrs, witness of confessors, openness and love to the other person. We try to implement these principles and emphasize them through various external accents.



### **President of the Institute of Ecumenical Studies, UCU, Fr. Iwan Dacko**

“ The wounds of the past are still deep enough, but there is a sincere desire to return to the Christianity of the times of St. Volodymyr, when the Church was still united and not divided. We are talking about a full and simultaneous communion with all sui juris Churches within the framework of a one Universal Church. This is not a simple task, but with God's help it is undoubtedly possible and necessary to be done.



### **Founding Director of the IES, Dr. Antoine Arjakovsky**

“ I believe that in the years to come we will understand more and more that ecumenical knowledge is the main paradigm that enables us to embody a new university, a new synthesis of understanding Christianity – not only between different religions, different Churches, but also such, which is ready to answer modern issues, such as fundamentalism. ... I believe that there is one science, that is supreme and can answer all these questions, - this is above all things ecumenical studies.





## The Institute of Ecumenical Studies

is a structural unit and integral part of the Ukrainian Catholic University, which conducts educational, scientific and practical activities in the field of interconfessional and interreligious relations.

### The mission of the Institute

is to promote the movement for the unity of Christians, spreading the ecumenism of love and ecumenism of truth.

## Ecumenism – is

1

the movement to overcome the alienation, confrontation and hostility between Christians of different denominations

2

the movement of the creation of fraternal relations between Christians of different confessions and establishment of joint cooperation to witness to the world of one Christ and seek answers to the challenges of the modern world

3

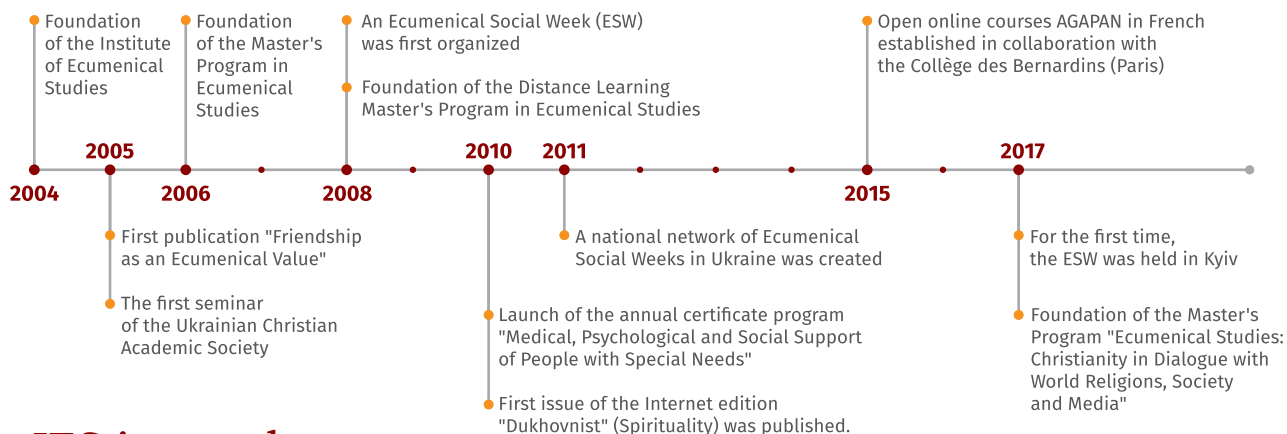
the movement for the achievement of communion and unity between Christians in order to full the legacy of Christ «May they all be one, just as, Father, you are in me and I am in you, so that they also may be in us" (Jn.17,21)

## Objectives of the IES:

- to provide a high-quality higher education, combining the best achievements of theology and spirituality with modern humanities;
- to offer ways of reconciliation, spiritual interconfessional alternatives and ways of new evangelization, in the context of the crisis of modern ideologies;
- to promote the study of ecumenism in various spheres with the help of conferences, seminars, forums, publications;
- to support practical initiatives in Ukraine and abroad, uniting Christians and people of good will to participate in the formation of pluralistic societies in Europe.



# History



## IES in numbers

### 6 Educational Programs

- Master's Program "Ecumenical Studies: Christianity in Dialogue with World Religions, Society and Media";
- Annual Certificate Program "Medical, Psychological and Social Support of People with Special Needs";
- Distance Annual Certificate Program in Ecumenical Studies;
- Distance Learning Master's Program in Ecumenical Studies (for English-speaking students);
- Mass-discovered online courses AGAPAN in French in collaboration with the Collège des Bernardins (Paris);
- Program "Wisdom-Online" in collaboration with the Open Orthodox University of Saint Sophia-Divine Wisdom and with the support of the L'Œuvre d'Orient Foundation (France).

**20** scientific and practical conferences

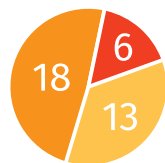
**11** Ecumenical Social Weeks

**13** UCAS seminars

**7** annual initiatives within the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

**5** All-Ukrainian contests for journalists "Reporters of Hope in Ukraine"

Internet publication "Dukhovnist" | **80** issues

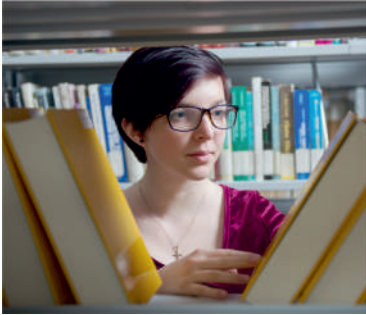


**37** publications:  
 books  
 translations  
 newsletters





## Purpose of activity



### Educational

to prepare competent experts for practical and academic research in the field of ecumenical studies, with deep knowledge of Christian doctrine and appropriate skills in the field of interconfessional and interreligious dialogue, religious communication and Christian social doctrine. We provide the skills to teach how to support people with special needs in the light of the new vision of the person, by master's and certificate programs.



### Academic and practical

to attract people from all over Ukraine and the world to research and debate the issue of Christian unity through the implementation of projects, conferences, seminars, round tables, at the level of Ukrainian and world level.



### Publishing

to address key events and individuals during times of Church divisions and how the attempted resolutions contributed to ecumenism.

#### These publications:

- help to better understand the world context of inter-church relations;
- serve as an excellent academic basis for students of theology and history faculties;
- raise the general level of education of readers in church history by forming ecumenical consciousness;
- present historical examples and methods of ways in order to overcome divisions in the Church.

## Educational Program "Ecumenical Studies: Christianity in Dialogue with World Religions, Society and Media»

Field of knowledge:	04 «Theology»
Specialty:	041 «Theology»
Higher education level:	master's degree
Form of study:	full time
Curriculum:	90 ECTS credits
Length:	1 year 5 months

**i** Possibility of participating in the program on the basis of a bachelor's degree, a master's degree and an educational qualification level of a specialist, acquired in another specialty (field of study).

**f** /ecumenismcom

### Specializations:

**1** Interreligious dialogue

**2** Social doctrine of the Church

**3** Religious communication





## The three main components of the program:



### theoretical training

Introduction to theology, humanities and professional disciplines



### practical and professional training

Pedagogical practice, internship in mass media, non-governmental organizations and participation in social projects (with presentation of projects)



### scientific and research training

Religious research practice, such as participation of students in academic and research projects, including preparation and defense of a master's thesis

## Why Ecumenical Sciences at the UCU?

- State accreditation
- Cross-border entry
- Interdisciplinary ecumenical approach
- Practical experience
- Public request
- International academic programs



# Distance Learning Master's Program in Ecumenical Studies (DLMPES)

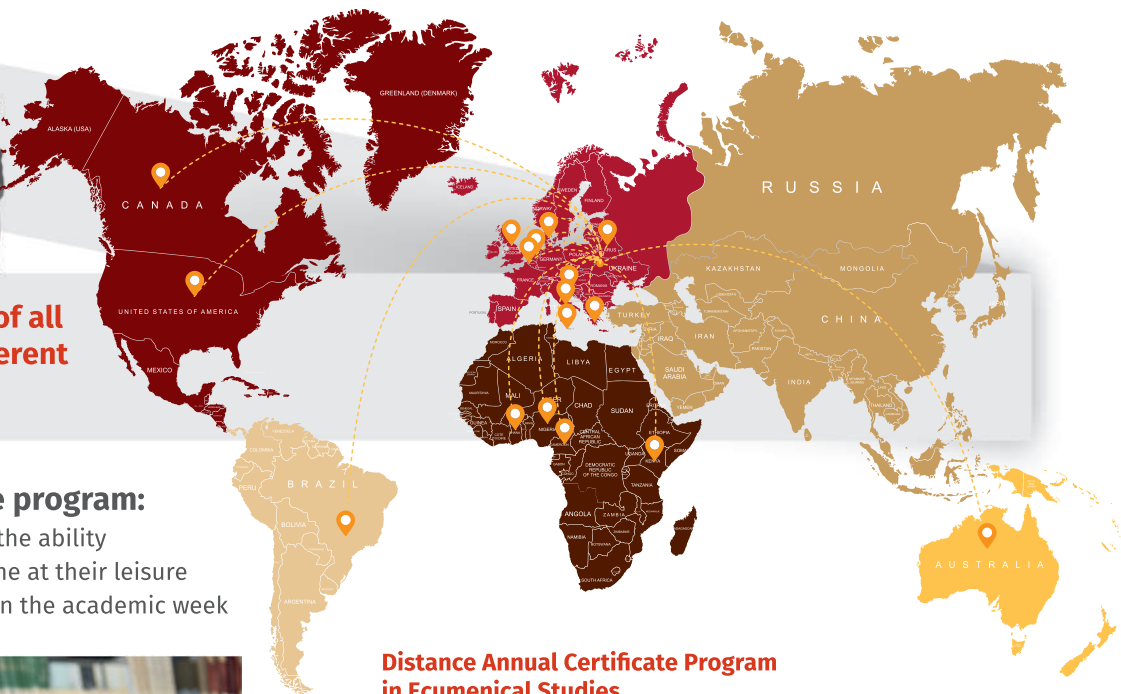
- provides theological and ecumenical education at the master's level through on-line learning
- provides a high level of academic knowledge on theology, church history and ecumenism
- contributes in a greater personal understanding of other churches, denominations and religions, by focusing on the path of cooperation and friendship
- provides the opportunity to participate in individual training courses without joining the entire program
- participate in the international online community of students and scholars who are striving towards fulfilling Christ's call for unity among Christians



**We have students of all  
ages and from different  
parts of the world**

## **Advantages of the program:**

provides students with the ability  
to manage their own time at their leisure  
and perform tasks within the academic week



## **Distance Annual Certificate Program in Ecumenical Studies**

- 1** is aimed at providing theological education in the ecumenical direction through on-line learning
- 2** provides good academic knowledge in theology, church history and ecumenism
- 3** contributes to the knowledge of other Churches and denominations and leads to the path of cooperation and friendship between Christians



# Annual Educational Certificate Program "Medical, Psychological and Social Support of People with Special Needs"

(people with different kinds of special needs: dependent, elderly, sick, terminally ill, lonely)

**The purpose** is to provide support for people with special needs in the light of a new vision of a person.

## Priority directions:

**1** Interaction and interplay of the accompanying person and the person who is being accompanied



**2** Work in the team

**3** Personal responsibility: participation in the process of humanization of society



**550** training hours

**250 hours of formation**

**300 hours of practice**

## Educational areas of the program:

- knowledge of a person
- relationship with the person who is being accompanied
- teamwork and the concept of the institution, or community
- support and interaction with the person who is being accompanied
- life in a social environment
- people with special needs in society and in communities

■ **modular structure of the program**

■ **theoretical training based on a holistic, biopsychosocial model of health**

■ **practical experience**





# All-Ukrainian Public Forum "Ecumenical Social Week" (ESW)

Seeks to unite the resources of a community, authorities, social organizations, Churches, mass media and educators regarding solution of pressing problems of society;

Stimulates ecumenical dialogue in the social sphere, based on universal values and Social Doctrine of the Churches

**The mission** is to achieve the welfare of society by improving social policy through the search for consensus.

## 2017 – The forum was held twice: in Kyiv and Lviv

- 1 **Co-operative movement in Ukraine**  
*June 9-15, 2008*
- 2 **Social responsibility**  
*October 5-11, 2009*
- 3 **Trust. Responsibility. Philanthropy**  
*October 4-10, 2010*
- 4 **Reforms through trust**  
*September 27-October 2, 2011*
- 5 **The future of democracy in Ukraine**  
*September 24-30, 2012*
- 6 **Diversity and Respect**  
*October 1-8, 2013*
- 7 **Responsibility of a Christian in modern society**  
*September 29-October 4, 2014*
- 8 **Education towards Changes: Spirituality and Innovations**  
*September 30-October 3, 2015*
- 9 **Migration: a challenge for Ukraine**  
*September 28-October 2, 2016*
- 10 **Dignity-Service-Solidarity. Towards renewed country**  
*June 7-9, 2017 (Kyiv),  
October 4-7, 2017 (Lviv)*

 /esweekucu



## Ukrainian Christian Academic Society (YXAT-UCAS)

- Voluntary academic association of Christian scholars whose activities are aimed toward better understanding the past and present of the Kyivan Church by working on the development of its future;
- Cooperates with world interconfessional organizations, in particular with members of the former Kyivan Church Study Group;
- Uses the experience of the world's interfaith organizations in its academic activities to promote open dialogue in order love and respect for each other;
- Publishes an ecumenical almanac "Ecumenicon" – an annual assortment of the Society's activities.



## Ecumenical Prayer for Christians Unity and Peace

- Annual prayer meeting which takes place within the framework of the World Week of Prayers for Christians Unity;
- Participation with representatives of various Churches and Christian communities of Lviv.

## Publications



publications – 37

books – 18

translations – 6

newsletters – 13

Internet publication "Dukhovnist" –

80 issues



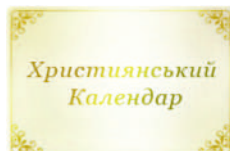
## Awards:



2014 – The book "Josyf Slipyj. Memoirs" received the award "The Best Book of Publishers Forum»;

2016 – The book "The Council of Florence" by Fr. Joseph Gill took the 16th place among the best books of the Forum.

## Christian Calendar



[www.ecumenicalcalendar.org.ua](http://www.ecumenicalcalendar.org.ua)

- liturgical online calendar of the traditional Churches of Byzantine rite;
- provides the opportunity to learn the basic elements of prayer life: liturgical worship, prayers, biblical readings, memory of saints (especially of the first millennium) and holidays, spiritual reflections from the writings of Holy Fathers.

## Internet Publication "Dukhovnist" (Spirituality)



[www.dukhovnist.in.ua](http://www.dukhovnist.in.ua)

[/dukhovnist.in.ua](https://www.facebook.com/dukhovnist.in.ua)

- created on the basis of secular media, aimed specifically to this circle of readers;
- highlights key events and incidents of the social and religious life in Ukraine and the world;
- issued in two languages - Ukrainian and Russian.





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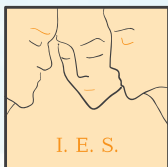
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