**REPORT**

**of the President of the International Foundation for the Unity of Orthodox Christian Nations (IFUOCN)**

**Professor Valery Alexeev**

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**“Equality and Justice as the Basis of Stability in the World – Christian View”**

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*Your Eminencies! Your Excellencies!*

*Ladies and Gentlemen! Dear colleagues!*

*Dear friends!*

There is no need to prove the obvious that **the contemporary world is undergoing the complicated transformations** on all fronts of his development. **The fundamental qualitative transformations of the cultural areal** of human society which affects the intrinsic character of the basis of civilization are particularly alarming.

In spite of the global and, beyond doubt, **well-coordinated attack on the Christian spiritual and cultural values and meanings** which expandedacross the globe, the modern civilization is continuing to carry with it **the positive potential of Old Testament and New Testament legacy**.

The contemporary world is different from the rest historic periods of human existence by **the extreme uncertainty of his perspectives**, both the nearest and in the very long term. No one key nation together with their leaders can not boast the **clearness and certainty**, profound thoughtfulness of their **strategic goals**, the agenda of **urgent tasks** easily understandable for nations, the tasks which national political and civil forces are called upon to solve.

This oppressive **uncertainty** stems from the permanent instability of the world order which, in turn, is based on the total **injustice of current relations and widespread inequality** of almost every element of the present historical process*,* both at subjective and objective levels of civil, social, political and international collaboration*.*

The **injustice and inequality** lead the planet to **conflicts**, **turning it into explosive**. It cannot fail to be concerned by the **thinking class**. Not without reason the topics of **security and justice** of international relations were put in agenda of the **Davos and Munich** forums of this year as a priority. In this connection the main official heading of the Davos conference-2018 – “**Creating a Shared Future in a Fractured World**” - is more telling. Per se, this heading is identical to the topic of the main report and the official heading of the Munich forum: “**Present at the Erosion: International Order on the Brink**?”

The principal reason of many common concerns of modern mankind lies in the total domination of **injustice** as the principal essential element of the international order based **on inequality**. Let’s see Christian Fathers’ attitude towards this issue. The Saint **Paul the Apostle** pays a lot of attention in his messages to **well-ordered society** of early Christian communities as the more fair, as the salvation building of the human life. In the Second Epistle to the Corinthians Paul the Apostle clarifies the matter to his disciples in some details how it is important to follow the rules of **equality and justice** in their interconnections, for *I do not mean that others should be eased and you burdened;****4****but by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may supply their lack, that their abundance also may supply your lack—that there may be equality* (2 Cor. 8: 13-14)*.*

That is, sociality of relations, in general, and **social justice**, in particular, are understood as **spiritual and religious priorities** for the Christians. **Labor**, as the source of all earthly riches, must be **compulsory for all**, it must be measure of social **responsibility** of every human being, a basis of **justice** in the society, for, as **Paul the Apostle** says in another Epistle to the Thessalonians *If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.* (2 Thess. 3:10). The destruction of these principles, in big and small, results in the **loss of harmonization** of the human order. It is well documented by the modern practice.

One of the principal institutes of the world economy – **the World Bank** – publishes Annual reports on actual issues of current economy, and issues of **social and political relations** closely connected. In the recent report of the World Bank dedicated to the analysis of the **European integration** it was noted with concern that the emergence of the European Union, as his architects anticipated, had to guarantee the United Europe **the income equalization** **of the population of the rich and poor states**, that is, to create **necessary justice and stability** at the continent. Having abandoned many attributes of their own sovereignty, the European states that have signed in 1992 **the Maastricht Treaty**, expected **to eliminate imbalances and gaps** in the national social and economic systems, to transfer Europe into **conflict-free** and predictable political area with equal rights of all its parts, and common rules and living standards.

The report says that by 2018 **there had not been any significant income equalization** of the rich and poor states. The growing **gap in the incomes** as the testimony of **injustice and inequality** became **the real threat to the social stability** and political cohesion of the European Union countries.

Another recent report of the **World Bank** entitled “Trends in Global Wealth of Nations” says that over the past 20 years **the total wealth of 141 nations** by aggregating values of different components reached astronomical figures -$1,143 quadrillion in 2014, growing 66 percent, but it caused **even greater gap between the richest and the poorest** countries. As **bright indicator of inequality,** it reached no less stunning figure – 5200%. Accordingly, **the global inequality** remains the most threatening **danger for the humankind**, for it is what generates **injustice and instability** with disastrous **conflicts** and clashes.

Group’s survey among thousand of the leading world experts working for governments, the largest businesses, political and academic circles published ahead of the recent January annual meeting in Davos, heighlighted their **growing anxious expectations**. **93% of experts** predict intensification of political and economic **confrontations** between major global powers in 2018, while **40% of these** believe that the risks will achieve **critical level**, and **79% stated** **the risk of war is rising** in the nearest future.

Such prognosis and expectations give way to **pessimism** and loss of activity in business circles, lowering of micro- and macroeconomic activities, **slowing down** in development, as such, and as a result – further **stagnation**, **rising** unemployment, poverty, social disintegration and **deepening income inequality**. In is well-known that these are the reasons of **social tension** which, in turn, creates global **instability**. And so, the circle would have closed: we began to investigate the origins of **instability**, starting with **injustice and inequality**, and successively came to the very beginning, that is to **inequality and injustice as the root cause** of instability and conflicts.

The modern **critics** of Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, following their predecessors, once again over the recent 170 years, after signing in Brussels (the current capital of the EU which in itself seems symbolic) **“Communist Manifesto”**, who for the first time in history made a comprehensive study of nature **flaws and inadequacies** of capitalism, have been **totally discredited** again, but the founders of Marxism have been proved right. **The modern capitalism** for near two centuries hasn’t changed at all in his essence – **predatory nature of capitalism** continues to drive the whole world **in fatal paradigm**. The principal Marxist conclusion about **capitalism’s nature** in paradigm of increase in acceleration of processes of **aggregation of capital**, as a source of **strengthening of tension**, confirms its correctness and continues to drive the whole world to the **global danger**, all the more inexorably.

Not so long ago it was said about 5 thousands of the richest families of America who rule this state and **the entire world**. Today they say about nearly 500 such super-rich families **which manage global processes**. That is, **aggregation of capital is accelerating** what confirms Marx’s conclusions, and **the absolute power** becomes concentrated in the hands of **critically small group of men**. But the entire world, does it become more **sustainable and predictable**? The answer is obvious: no, it does not. On the contrary, the entire world is becoming all the **more uncertain**, and therefore **dangerous**. **Peace and stability** today depends on handful of men with intentions too far from **the rest humankind**.

In December 2017, that is three months ago, noteworthy material appeared – I mean **the Report of the Club of Rome** dedicated to the fiftieth anniversary of this influential non-governmental institution which embrace notable scientists, prominent journalists, bankers, politicians and high-level civil servants at rest, in other words, **the global elite** which is no more bound by any obligations with their governments and has all possibilities to speak freely on various **urgent issues of the modern world**.

The reports for this institution are prepared by the leading world-class experts, and these are becoming, as made public, **sensational**, how it happened, for instance, with famous report of the Club of Rome “The Limits to Growth” issued in 1972.

The report-2017 was prepared by 34 world-class experts under the leadership of two club’s co-presidents, prof. **Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker** and **Anders Wijkman** and was entitled “**Come On! Capitalism. Short-termism, Population and the Destruction**”.

As it follows from the title, world guru from science, business and politics pass **critical judgments on what is capitalism**, accusing this model of the loss of **the global order**.

So, where is the principle **danger**? It is in the absence of **attractive goals** and **high ideals** which **capitalism** is not capable to offer for mankind intrinsically, capitalism **limited to vulgar frames of maximizing benefits**. The Club of Rome while using very interesting data, **criticize** **severely** the very essence of modern **capitalism** be stating, that 98% of financial operations are **speculative**. The Report of the Club of Rome invites to **alternative economy**, forming a comprehensive outlook, the new “Enlightenment” as a new epoch for mankind which is impossible to imagine without such dominant factors as **justice and equality**.

**Cosmopolitan transnational liberal and secular** global **banking** and trade and **speculative capital** is limited in their actions for the sake of selfish goals by **national boundaries and sovereignties of states**. This **narrow circle** of the largest **global financial and trade dealers** usurped **the power on the planet** and operates not only **beyond** state borders, but do everything to crash them, for **national** borders and **sovereignties** block their intentions to act as they want in full measure, **on the basis of selfish interests**.

The stronghold of these forces is in **the United States** where **ultra-liberal** standards, directed to **total destruction** of the national **identity**, are moving in the most damning extent. Have you ever wondered why **the United States** accept too **many immigrants**, although far not all are given an opportunity to settle in America, **majority are languishing on welfare** surviving on temporary jobs?

Liberal masters of **America** emasculate, sterilize, **water down** **American identity** by mass influx of **newcomers**, dreadfully fearing appearance of population, **not multicultural**, but fully realizing and defending **profound national interests of American people**. And this is definitely the way to **sovereignty** that will destroy **transatlantic, transpacific trade and financial** global systems, being created by liberals with such perseverance, which affords the capital sharks to throw by electronic networks billions of money in the blink of an eye, in order **to rule the world** to their advantage.

It is surprising that **Donald Trump** won the elections in the US with appeals to make America strong again, by destroying **global speculative-oligarchic system**. It means that **American people**, by supporting **Mr. Trump**, preserved strength **to defend sovereignty and identity**.

Multicultural project of **cosmopolitan globalism** has failed, but there comes a time of **national states**. It is clear what are the reasons of recent **giant influx in Europe of alien mass of refugees, different by culture and religion**, since it is obvious, that it is **not spontaneous movement** of peoples from one spiritual and cultural area to another one. This is **preplanned** man-made **process** aiming at **watering down** of the European identity of peoples of this continent in order to weaken their strength for **defense of their own sovereignty**, this obstacle for the **global financial-trade speculative** oligarchy to act ignoring the national interests of states.

Frau **Angela Merkel** together with Mr. **Barak Obama** had done much for the advantages of the **global financial-speculative** and trade **oligarchy**. Through their efforts this **globalist cosmopolitan project** almost won **in Europe and America**. But the authors and operators of this project - all of these **Murdocks, Soroses , Gateses** and other such, **underestimated** the potential of natural desire of peoples towards **preserving their identity**, their **language**, **culture, religion**, and their unique image and their own **characteristic style**.

They **underestimated** the role and **importance of the tradition**, strength of **spiritual and cultural values and meanings** of peoples **having roots in religion**. Nowadays **Christianity** saves the people of **Europe** from extinction giving a strong impetus to **national self-consciousness** of peoples of the continent, by encouraging the most clear-sighted political and state leaders to rely on spiritual strength of **Christianity** in order to defend their **identity** and sovereignty of their nations.

Not without reason global **cosmopolitan** liberal and secular **elite** tries to fight by all forces against **Christianity** using **Muslim** extremists, and **marginal** circles of anti-culture which stand for **unrestricted** freedom of the so-called creativity and unfettered human rights cultivating triumph of **vice, permissiveness** and thus turning individual to **animalistic** as if this is the norm.

**Justice and equality** have **Christian** dimension. **God** created people **in one image and likeness** giving the commandment of **love to peoples**, **man's love for man** such as yourself , **equal**, which is highly **fair**. This is key condition of **steadfastness, security and stability of the entire world**.

It may be well argued that in the modern world the **thinking class has formed**, I would say, **almost consensus**, **solid request** for creation of attractive and positive “**image of the future**”, critically necessary for further productive **development**. More and more streams of **healthy instincts and interests** join this growing wave of global attitudes, in spite of **resistance** of archaic but still powerful **liberal-secular anti-wave.**

This **destructive and aggressive** hundred years’ wave of the **global liberalism** that covered the mankind begins to roll back and lose its previous force still being persistently supported by **transnational media resources**, their main weapon along with the closely related global **speculative-banking capital**.

The global media, the major stronghold of the liberals, try not to give in other hands **the process of formation of the new world of information and digital technologies**. None other than incumbent **President of the US** hardly stabbed them in the back, whose post for some time had been a basis of liberal support. Acting head of the White House **President of the US Donald Trump** who had made a career not least because of his personal involvement in the largest media projects, now firmly **opposes against the largest information and broadcasting corporations**, accusing then in **total corruption and deceit**. Pillars and idols of the liberal world - New York Times, Washington Post, Times, News Week, CNN and other creators and “motors” of the current “ **face of the world**” in the paradigm of **unfair capitalist order**, have come under the fire of his denunciations.

Fighting for survival, the liberal elite tries to offer the world **an attractive “image of the future”** which should replace previous order based on **injustice and inequality** of the capitalist relations. It remains to be seen whether this task will be beyond their capacity. But now other players have joined fighting for their right to offer the mankind **an attractive “image of the future**”.

In this global clash **China** engages actively, and begins to beat out in **global leaders** not only in the economy but also in the **field of knowledge and creation of concepts**. In 2017 China for the first time bypassed the US in terms of investments in startups which develop **artificial intelligence algorithms**, breaks into the first position in the field of digital technologies, and turns from the “**world factory**” into **“headquarter” of production of new ideas and meanings**. **The future of the whole world** depends on the one who will be the winner in this battle, giant in value, for leadership in **production of meanings**.

The attractiveness of this **“image of future”** depends not so much on the economic or military power of the player which pretends to win in this battle, but on how much **values and meanings** offered by him will prove **vital**, capable of triggering responsiveness of mankind **directed to survival and self-preservation** in the positive paradigm. Eventually, the winner will be the one, and together with him all humanity, who is able to convince **the ruling classes** that **there is no alternative for advancing ideas of justice and equality** as the foundation of human society, and encourage peoples to act in projection of this **life-giving perspective**.

The winner is the one who will be followed by **youth** which is now **loosing hopes** for the better life. Not so long ago known organization **“Resolution Foundation”** issued the report of its authors, **Fahmida Rahman** and **Daniel Tomlinson**, concerning the mood of youth in Europe. The most important thing why **youth is unhappy** are issues of **injustice and inequality**, the authors say.

 Where **justice and equality** are prosperous, there, somewhere near, the **Truth and Wisdom of God** exist, which, in the words of the Apostle Paul,***the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom… Which none of the princes of this world knew***(1 Cor. 2: 7-8)*.*

**Christianity** is the power that can and should specify the future path for mankind to **life-saving existence**. **Christianity** is not something **obsolete and archaic** which lost its positive universal all-human potential. On the contrary, the very two thousand years’ existence of Christianity as the **unique global spiritual and cultural and civilization phenomenon** which connects nations, space and time, is really impressive and inspires hope that it is Christianity which **should therefore give necessary life-giving impetus** for mankind to acquire **faith in salvation**.

It is nor surprisingly that it is today, when the mankind faces **global challenges and threats**, many sober-minded political leaders turn **to the side of Christianity** with hope to find support for **correct decision-making**. The troublesome situation in the European Union is well-known, not least because of **Europe abandoned her Christian identity**. One of the most vocal critics of such a disastrous course of Europe is political leader from Hungary **Victor Orban** who reproaches Brussels in **erosion of the European Christian values** which leads to the collapse of the European **civilization**. “We are one of those who consider Christianity the stronghold of the European civilization”, the Hungarian Premier states. There are like-minded individuals in elites in **Slovakia, Austria, Czech Republic, Italy** and other countries. Not long ago the French President **Emmanuel Macron** said the process of **de-Christianization** of Europe is disturbing, and stated that “**he is concerned about danger of radicalization of secularism”**.

Solid defender of the **Christian values** is **Vladimir Putin**. He is a leader of the country where Orthodoxy is the **state-forming factor**. Therefore today’s **“containment of Russia”**, like previous giant campaign “**on containment of the Soviet Union”** which was carried out by the West **under the leadership and dictation of the US**, is finally directed to one purpose – to make unattractive the image of Russia itself, with her history and aspirations, to make Russia weak and poor achiever. Hence stems the logic of the economic sanctions – to make Russia not only **the weak economy** but simply **to isolate** her from the rest world by sanctions regime, and **to impose on her a “toxic” image**, **danger enough for any communication.**

As far as the **values** Russia upholds, and **meanings** she follows, Russia is portrayed as **a failed state** which professes some kind of archaic, **Orthodox**, views, as interpreted in the West, **outdated** postulates and precepts. Being the **biggest state of the Orthodox world**, Russia thereby is the **stronghold of the world Orthodoxy**. Targeting Russia, her enemies target **Orthodoxy** in order to diminish it and destroy.

**The Western establishment** regards Orthodoxy at all as some **tolerable religion**, outdated, almost marginal, and peoples professing **Orthodoxy**, the Western elite is convinced, **are not worthy to be seriously considered**.

**Therefore the Orthodox nations** recently acceded to European Union, enjoy there a lesser **status of the third-party States**. And this humiliating situation with **Orthodox nations** in Europe is becoming a norm, which in turn call into question **presence of tolerance**, multiculturalism and **reign** of human rights in this community. This arrogant **haughtiness,** accumulated over the ages, turning into **hatred** of the West towards **Orthodox East of Europe**, had led today to glaring contradictions **on the axis of civilization rift**.

Since the **collapse of the Soviet Union** and triumph of the Reagan doctrine and emergence of the so called **New Europe,** **the total war against Orthodoxy** in the world has increased. Look at the panorama of disasters the Orthodox countries and nations have suffered: **the Soviet Union** is destroyed, **Russia** is under siege; **Yugoslavia** is dividing; **Serbia and Montenegro** are destroyed by bombing; **Syria** is in flames; **Lebanon** is under threat of invasion from the South; finances of **Greece and Cyprus** are eliminated and powerless; **Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova** are insidiously deceived be the West and drawn into the conflict with Russia; **Belarus** is still lives under the threat of new sanctions; **Egypt** is shaken by the attacks of radical Salafi terrorists against **Coptic Christians**, encouraged by the West; **Macedonia** is unable to cope with civil confrontation skillfully heated from outside; **Romania and Bulgaria** can not overcome poverty.

 Of course, there are in **Russia** a lot of problems relayed to preserving **equality and justice**, closing **a screaming gap** between the poor and the rich. Not long ago Russian **political and scientific circles** actively disputed the **report** of associate professor of the Novosibirsk state University of economy and management **Dmitry Fomin** dedicated to **critical analysis** of the economic **development** of the country. According to his data which has not been seriously challenged, in the period 1991-2015, that is the period of new **bourgeois -capitalist relations** in Russia, major material **losses of the country are comparable with those of the Great Patriotic War** 1941-1945 period. Basic assets of the economy **declined** more than 33%.

This is a huge amount of losses which demands **urgent measures** for immediate **recovery** of the lost potential, and with this purpose it is necessary to **redistribute the national wealth** concentrated **in the hands of the very narrow group of the richest Russians**. To accelerate the development in Russia which is urgently needed, it is necessary to put in order situation with preserving the basic **justice and equality**. There is no other way for the country in the circumstances of the Western sanctions. The State must take decisive actions. **Dmitry Fomin** believes that it is necessary **to cut six times** the incomes of the richest group of Russians which embraces **0,4 mln persons**. The incomes of the second group (**15 mln persons**) **should be cut three times**. And the incomes of the third group (**more than 100 mln persons**) should **be cut by 30%.** The released accumulated funds should be **redistributed** among the leading branches of industry and henceforth make a transition towards more **fair, socially oriented policy**, otherwise the country will not cope with present **rifts, disproportions and imbalances** in all spheres of life.

We need to connect **fair social order** and high **moral and cultural traditional values and meanings** of our nation, based on **Orthodoxy**. That is what was called for at one time by the great minds of our Russian culture and science: **F.M. Dostoyevsky, D.I. Mendeleev, N.A. Berdyaev** and others.

We need to study our history, **without addictions and emotions**, and **learn useful lessons** from the past, not madly **criticize** discussing one or the other historical period of our Motherland, but to find necessary **clue** from experience of our predecessors in order to make right decision in contemporary environment. Say, in the sphere of **defense technologies** they returned today to the **Soviet experience,** and now resources are mobilized in this direction, with t**he approval of the nation**. Why not to return to the Soviet past, **to the best in its social relations**, which, at the time, has **consolidated, without doubts, and mobilized society**? Nowadays, in the circumstances of Western sanctions, the need in such **consolidation is incredibly important**, but it is impossible without **justice and equality** as basic principles of vital activity of the healthy society.

It is well-known that the **regimes of justice and equality** need constant **adjustment**, being most **effective** as permanent priorities of the **ruling class**, which should be **ideologically motivated**. But **de-ideology** of existing regime of power, widely advertised as benefit, plays **a cruel joke with its own population** **removing it from power and adoption of basic fateful decisions**.

Nowadays, as one of authoritative sociologist, corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Science **Jean Toshchenko** says, **80,3%** of citizens of Russia **do not consist in any public organization**; **93,7%** believe **they do not affect public decision-making**. Of course, participation of citizens in elections **at all levels of power** and related meetings is important factor, but this assign them only **a passive part**, denying masses of **creative opportunity** to participate in the shaping of state policy **in the interests of the entire nation**, but not only of the **narrow circle of persons** (**not more 1% of the Russian population**), which according to **Global Wealth Report**, holds **71% of all personal assets** available in Russia.

Recently Vice-Premier of Russian Government **Olga Golodets** in one of her speeches has made an **important statement** that of the approximately **80 mln working-age population** **38 mln** is unclear where are busy and **if they are busy at all**. This is not only an issue of **current marginalization** of people but also an issue of mass phenomenon of **benefit dependency and degradation to lumpens**, because these so-called **“part-timed” are demoralizing public consciousness**, create criminal atmosphere in the state.

The state needs influx of **working, engineering, creative forces,** but in the person of the so-called “part-timers” **almost half of working-age population is removed** from manufacturing of useful product in officially registered units. It becomes major social and economic **problem,** even if we mean not only slackers and anti-social elements of society, but such a new phenomenon as **“precariat”**, that is **entire social class** of those who works part-time or non-permanently, who has no opportunity **to practice their profession**.

The existing **bourgeois-capitalist** relations are forming market of the **“precariat”** on the assumption of their **self-interests**, where **profit** is the measure of all. Say, today the business owner is engaged in the production of footwear, but tomorrow pursuit of profit and **market situation** will force him to drastically change his business and engage in trade or something else. But personnel recruited is also forced **to quit their professions**, switch to partial workday or partial workweek. “Precariat”, in its essence, is **de-professional**, for it is inherent in frequent changes of places of employment, **it does not content morality of conscientious and hard work** as necessary requirement for **shaping his honest and fair way of life**. This growing number of individuals **demoralizes**, turning into loose unstable mass.

Such challenges and threats, especially from the part of **traditional communities**, as **Russia and China**, where such **values** as **family** in the classical sense, conscientious and hard **work**, respect for **parents** and so on and so forth continue to be highly revered, **pose a great danger**, for they **water down** the prevailing **morality and meanings of justice, equality, social responsibility**. The bourgeois-capitalists orders, market laws **in their liberal trend**, penetrating deep into life-style, impose on the **ruling class** enormous tasks of **preservation of traditions** and necessity **to fit in the modern** processes based on digital technologies.

For this very purpose **China** is mobilizing efforts on his path of strengthening the **Government hierarchy** to fight **corruption**, improve **defense capability and manageability** of this giant state emphasizing **justice and equality**, thus rolling back to the necessity of **strengthening the ideological work**.

**The revision of the Chinese Constitution** aiming to extend for the leader **the time frame in the office** says that the society and ruling party faces the **real threat** of destructive processes of the market economy, which generates **corruption and imbalances, vices** and flaws of the **cult**.

**Russia**, of course, has its own way, but she faces, in many respects, the same **dangers and challenges** – it is vital **to preserve historical identity and not to be outsider** in contemporary technologies, offering the society **the ideology** which would **unite the nation** and **consolidate** joint efforts for **positive development**.

On this way **Russia, like China**, has, except **eternal** problems, a lot of **external obstacles**. Say, **Russia and China** are more and more **criticized** by the Western world **for absence** of unfettered freedom of consciousness, for restriction of activity of **various destructive sects, radical units of the Salafi style** and others.

The oppression of **religious freedom, in American**, is uniquely qualified by **the West** as serious infringement of **human rights**, **the violation of democratic norms**, which should be **punished** by imposing various **sanctions, proscriptions** and so on.

It is well-known fact, that there in the United States the special **United States Commission on International Religious freedom** acts, an independent, bipartisan U.S. federal government commission that **monitors** the **universal right to freedom of religion or belief abroad.** **The standards** of this freedom is purely **American** and correspond the **interests of American foreign policy,** being an **instrument** for punishing **the objectionable countries and nations**. **Russia and China** are designated as "**Countries of Particular Concern**" of this **Commission** because they pursue foreign policy **different from the US**, policy based on defending their **own sovereignty**, which is not acceptable for the US Administration.

The recently issued annual Report of the **Commission** puts against **Russia** familiar accusations in oppression of opportunities to function for **Jehovah, Salafi and other extremist and radical groups** and units, acting under religion, who have no opportunities to influence freely on public consciousness, especially on the mood of youth. The Commission makes **big claims** against the Russian authorities and recommends **the US Department of State** to adopt measures related to **defense of traditional confessions** in the Russian Federation, stressing in particular that the role of the **Russian Orthodox Church** is too big in the life of the Russian society. There is **nothing surprise**, because **traditional confessions** in Russia, especially **the Russian Orthodox Church,** **in course of history** have been played the great role in **strengthening of national mentality and identity** of citizens, thus creating necessary ground for the shaping by state authorities sovereign policy.

The **religion organizations**, **non-traditional** for a country’s population, pose huge **problems** when they begin to occupy **disproportional** place in the **spiritual and cultural** and social and public area causing serious threats to state **stability**, and undermining all kinds of the submissions of **justice and equality**. In France, the classic Catholic country, there are today approximately **3 thousands officially registered mosques**, and **not registered** many times more. Only in Paris there are **more than 1,5 thousands** acting mosques, that considerably exceeds **the number of Christian churches** of all denominations and radically changes **religion landscape** of this country, which threatens to exacerbate **instability**.

Similar situation develops in Germany, Italy, and Austria. The latest elections in these countries demonstrated success of those forces protesting against liberal course of the European establishment, which in favor of their elite interests, so far from popular, and by their ill-conceived policy sharply changed ethnic and confessional balance at the continent, breaking all submissions about equality and justice as basis of stability. Anti-Russian sanctions, so harmful for the nations of Europe, even more aggravated the situation.

Under these circumstances nations, obeying natural instincts, strive for self-preservation on the ground of strengthening national, historically formed beginnings, traditions and priorities. And position of the traditional religious institutes is, in this context, indispensible. The Church, in the interests of the Truth and defense of identity of nations, should have opportunity to appeal to population, even if the authorities have no intentions to hear voice of religious leaders.

Holy **Patriarch of Moscow** and All Russia **Kirill**, who has been on visit in **Bulgaria** for the celebrations marking the 140th anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria from the 500years **Ottoman yoke** by a **regiment of the Russian Guards**, particularly stressed that “**Church must be** **independent from State**. Today the Orthodoxy has a tremendous responsibility. When the system of moral values is being revised in the strongest states which impose their will to the states not so powerful, however, the question arose: **and what about the Church?** If the Church is capable **to say “no” to the powerful**? Is the Church capable to struggle for **spiritual Truth** which she transmitted from generation to generation, or, being **“politically correct”**, the Church will lose her capacity to testify to the world about **the true Christian values**?”

The great **religious leaders** are therefore **great** because they defend high **spiritual values,** bringing salvation for the **mankind**, but for this they must be **independent** from the state authorities. On February 28 this year, the US President **Donald Trump** visited the mourning ceremony to commemorate **famous evangelical preacher Billy Graham** who **earned the nickname of "America's pastor”**, and was a counselor and confidante to nearly every **American President** since Harry Truman , but he never had a role in making policy. **”He will be missed by Christians and all religions”**, stated Trump. It should be true for the American President **to govern by Christian way**, not forgetting his words.

The **greatness of the religious leader** is in his **ability to testify** to his nation the **God Truth**. **Holy Patriarch of Serbia Irinej** testifies **the Truth** when defends **historic truth** about belonging of Kosovo to Serbia, while holders of power **almost accepted the fact** of losing this land sacred for the Serbians, but, you know, nobody reversed the Resolution 1244 of the UN Security Council concerning autonomy of **Kosovo as a part of Serbia**.

Patriarch **Theophilos III** of Jerusalem**,** Armenian Patriarch of Jerusalem of Armenian Apostolic Church **Nourhan Manougian**, Catholic Kustos of the Holy Land **Francesco Patton** testify the Truth when they call the Israeli authorities to recognize **malignancy** of their economic claims to Christians, the harm of “the systematic campaign against Churches and Christian community in the Holy Land”.

The authorities hamper the Church **to testify the Truth** when they **push the Church hierarchy** in Greece to make declarations concerning impossibility to recognize Macedonia’s right for **the current name**, by any option, and thus **deprives the local Orthodox Churches** opportunity to gain their own **Church institutional status and identity** at the places of ministry. The Turkish authorities hamper the Church **to testify the Truth** when they urge **high Orthodox lords** to endorse military actions under the title, it would seem peaceful, **“Olive branch**”.

God’s Truth **does not differ from justice**. *Mercy and truth* ***have met together****; Righteousness and peace* ***have kissed,*** Psalms testifies (Ps. 84, 11), and instruct us to act in this very direction. **Justice and equality**, getting ahead in life, bring necessary **useful fruits** for the mankind, only if they **are based** on high **spiritual and cultural values and meanings**, thus providing demanded stability all over and around the world.

Thank you for your attention.