METHODOLOGICAL GUIDE

CONCERNING THE REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS ON ISSTA 2026, SUBMISSION OF TEXTS FOR PUBLICATION AND RULES FOR DRAFTING THE PROPOSED SCIENTIFIC MATERIAL

(Alba Iulia, 3-5 May 2026)
Faculty of Orthodox Theology
"1 December 1918" University of Alba Iulia

International Symposium on Science, Theology, and Arts (ISSTA 2026)
Parenting, Gender, and Christian Identity in a Changing World

Sections:

1. Christian View on Gender and Family Life Today - issta.panel1@uab.ro

2. Creative Christian Witnessing: Sacred Music, Film and Art in a Changing World - issta.panel2@uab.ro

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

Participants must register by completing the form (https://forms.office.com/e/5Z1Ui8xsS5) by **15 March 2026**.

For them to be accepted, all abstracts will be subjected to evaluation by the Scientific Committee.

SENDING TEXTS AND PUBLISHING

The final text must be sent by **April 1, 2026**, in a Word document, to the email address indicated next to the panel you wish to subscribe to.

The text must be an original, relevant work, written in Romanian or English (abstract and keywords in English) and have not been previously published.

The paper (full text, including abstract, footnotes and final bibliography) must not exceed 25,000 characters and be written according to the requirements outlined below.

The study will contain, at the beginning, the name and institutional affiliation of the author, the abstract and the keywords (mandatory in English).

Please add a brief introduction of yourself, including your academic and scientific titles, your most notorious work from the past years, and your email address.

To compose the colon titles, we recommend that you add a short version of the title (maximum 70 characters). Studies that also contain characters in Greek, Hebrew, Slavonic, etc. will be accompanied by the files with the fonts used.

The conference materials will be published in collective volumes (proceedings) at Reîntregirea Publishing House (ISBN, CNCS B category). Some of the submitted papers will be published in English in the journal *International Journal of Orthodox Theology* (indexed in ERIH Plus, ATLAR DB, etc.), according to the rules, procedures, terms and conditions of publication of the IJOT (http://orthodox-theology.com/media/PDF/Call%20for%20Papers/ijot-guidelines.pdf), and another part in the magazine *Altarul Reîntregirii* (indexed BDI and CNCS category B), in accordance with the publication requirements of the periodical (https://fto.ro/altarul-reintregirii/1188- 2/).

NORMS FOR REDACTING SCIENTIFIC PAPERS

I. STRUCTURE OF THE ARTICLE/STUDY

1. **The list of abbreviations** (optional) should reflect the abbreviations frequently used by the author throughout the article/study.
2. Articles/studies must be accompanied (including those written in English) by an abstract (approx. 150 words), as well as a set of **keywords**.
3. **The content** of the paper (8-12 p., maximum 25,000 characters) refers to the chapters, paragraphs and subparagraphs that make up the article/study, structured in a logical chain, without transforming the text into a collection of quotes. Number of units

(chapters/paragraphs/subparagraphs) should not be exaggerated, and the division into units should not be arbitrary, but it must reflect in a unitary way the content of the topic addressed.

4. **The conclusions** contain a brief presentation of the main results obtained in the article/study, stating whether the working hypothesis has been confirmed; any issues that remain open will also be mentioned, as well as proposals regarding potential future research directions related to the topic addressed.

5. **The annexes** are an optional part of the article/study, which usually complement the existing application part of the chapters, containing tables, images, source codes, etc.

II. WRITING THE ARTICLE/STUDY

1. General rules

The materials will be sent to the editorial office in electronic format, preferably in a .doc or .docx format, accompanied by their version converted into portable format (pdf); it is preferable that the text does not contain other codes such as bookmarking, terms marked for indexes (names, localities, etc.), hyperlinks, automatic paragraph numbering, manual word breaking, etc. If tables, charts and other graphics are used, it is preferable that they are also sent in a separate file (in a .xls, .tiff, .jpeg, .pdf format). Even if the editorial staff will try as much as possible to ensure that the materials are corrected in terms of grammatical and stylistic correctness, we recommend that authors check these aspects before sending them.

On **the first page** of the paper, the presence of the following elements is mandatory:

▪ **The title** in the language in which the article is written and in English (where applicable); it must be concise and clear and should not exceed 100 characters (with spaces).

▪ **The name of the author(s) and institutional affiliation** (in the language in which the article is written and in English) accompanied by the address of the institution; it should be clearly specified whether the author belongs to different institutional groups; the full address of the institution(s) to which the author belongs (postal address, telephone/fax number, e-mail address) should also be specified.

▪ **Abstract of the article.** It must concisely present the purpose of the research, the main results of the research and the major conclusions reached (approx. 150 words);

▪ **Keywords (5-7) in English.**

The article/study containing words in *the non-Latin alphabet* (Greek, Cyrillic, Hebrew, Arabic, etc.) will be accompanied by a file that will contain the font used.

2. Formatting

- **Page formatting:** A4; # alignments: 3 cm left, 2 cm down, 2 cm up, 2 cm right; portrait; # Non mirror edges;

- **Paragraph formatting:** # *font*: Times New Roman; 12 points for text, 10 points for footnotes; # *alignment*: left-right (Justified); # *spacing*: 1.5 lines (before and after the chapter titles, two blank lines are left; before and after the subchapter titles one line each); # *alignment of new paragraphs*: by 1.25 cm (Paragraph – Indentation – Special – First line: by 1.25 cm);

- **Titles and subtitles:** # *Chapter titles*: written in capital letters, bold (bold) TmsNR 14, positioned centered, # *Titles of subchapters*: written in lowercase, bold (bold), TmsNR 12, aligned to 1.25 cm; Titles of rank 2, 3 subchapters, etc.: lowercase, slanted (italic), TmsNR 12, left-aligned and numbered hierarchical list (1.1. xxx; 1.2. xxxxxx; 1.3.: xxxx; 1.3.1. xxxxxxx; 1.3.2. xxxxxx; 1.3.2.1 xxxxxx etc.). In the arrangement of longer titles and subtitles, you should consider keeping some verbal units in each line.

- **Quotes** are marked with quotation marks only. Romanian quotation marks ("...") shall be used to highlight the quotation marks. In the case **of quotes within quotes**, the following rule is applied: "... «…» …". Quotes longer than five lines will be retracted 1 cm from the edge and separated from the base text by a line break, both before and after. If certain quotations fragment the work too much, they can be included in the footnotes and are intended to complement and clarify the statements in the basic text. In general, it is recommended that the citation of the main sources be made directly from the volumes of the established collections or from their recognized translations (PG, PL, SC, PSB, etc.), NOT through modern authors (e.g.: PG, *apud* Stăniloae...).

- To ensure the fidelity of the quotations, it is recommended: – to signal the ellipse, by inserting three ellipsis points for the omitted part: ... ; – marking interpolations, clarifications and the authors' specifications in brackets such as: [ ], accompanied by [_ , n.n.]; in the case of italicized underlining of words within a quotation, the words [, subl. n.] shall be inserted; if the quotation contains words underlined with italics, they will be kept as such, the author of the study introducing the mention: [_ , subl. a.]; – marking the completion of the text in sharp brackets: < >; – pointing out an obvious error of the quoted author: [sic!].

- In the text, references to footnotes will never be placed after the following punctuation marks – period (.²), semicolon (;²), comma (,²), but always immediately after the last word, without a blank space and before the respective punctuation marks, and in the case of quotation marks, immediately after them. Here are some examples: ... humility². / "... humility"². / ... humility?², "... humility!"².

3. ISSTA Papers Citation Guide

Studies published in ISSTA collective volumes use the Chicago citation system.
(Example)

- ***Citing a book or collection***

Răzvan Brudiu, *Incineration – missionary challenge or Christian counter-testimony?* (Cluj-Napoca: Cluj University Press Publishing House, 2018), 27.

The next citation shall be: Brudiu, *Incineration...*, 30.

- ***Citing a book from a collection***

F. van de Paverd, *Zur Geschichte der Messliturgie in Antiocheia und Konstantinopelgegen Ende des vierten Jahrhunderts*, Orientalia Christiana Analecta 187 (Rome: Pontificium Institutum Orientalium Studiorum, 1970), 78.
The next citation shall be: Van de Paverd, *Zur Geschichte...*, 80.

- ***Citing an article from a journal or scientific journal***

Ene Braniște, "The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts", *Theological Studies*, 3-4 (1958), 176-192.
The next citation shall be: Braniște, "The Liturgy of the Gifts...", 180.

- ***Citing a study or chapter/sections of a collective volume***

Oliviu P. Botoi, "The Moral Dimension of Patriotism, in the Context of Current Globalism. Civic Challenges for Romanians in the Country and Abroad", *Pastoral Care and Mission in the Diaspora*, vol. II, ed. Alexandru Moldovan, Răzvan Brudiu (Alba Iulia: Reunirea Publishing House, 2021), 267.

The next citation shall be: Botoi, "The Moral Dimension...", 273.

- ***Citing a dictionary or encyclopedia***

Dorothea Sattler, "Apostolisches Glaubensbekenntnis," in *Lexikon für Theologie und Kirche* (IN ITALIC), ed. Walter Kasper *et al.*, vol. 1, 3rd ed. (Freiburg: Herder, 1993), 878-80.

- ***Citing an unpublished work***

Mihail K. Qaramah, *A History of the Romanian Molitfelnic. The Evolution of the Forms of the Holy Mysteries (XVI-XVII centuries)* (doctoral thesis, "1 Decembrie 1918" University, 2021), 78. The next citation shall be: Qaramah, *A History...*, 80.

- ▪ ***Citing a classical work***

PG/PL, volume number (with Arabic numerals), column; e.g.: *PG* 87, 150A-151B.

- ▪ ***Electronic sources*** are cited mentioning the author, the title of the document, the address and the date of the consultation.

National Institute of Statistics: *Stable population by main religions in the 2011 census – preliminary results* (Table 8), http://www.recensamantromania.ro/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/TS8.pdf (15.02.2017).

III. ANNEXES, TABLES AND REPRODUCTIONS (IMAGES)

1. **The annexes** are numbered ascendingly, for the entire work (Annex 1, Annex 2, etc.) and it is recommended to add a descriptive title (e.g., Annex 1: *List of metropolitans of Wallachia*). Each annex will be called upon at least once during the article/study. Before the set of annexes, a cover page of the annexes is placed, containing only the mention ANNEX, centered, in the middle of the page, written in the font TmsNR, 20, bold.

2. **The tables, images and figures** (images, charts, graphs, screenshots, etc.) will contain a number (hierarchical) and a descriptive title (e.g., Photo 1: The *Mother of God – Odigitria, XIV century, The Monastery of a Wood*). If necessary, in the text the figures and tables should be inserted into the table, centered. It is recommended to avoid placing figures or tables before their first mention in the text. The references will be marked in the basic text: Annex 1, or: fig. 3-6 and Table 4 (normal writing); The tables, figures and photographs must be accompanied by *the legend* (e.g. Table 4: *List of feast icons from the Collection of the Archdiocese of Alba Iulia* or Table 12: *Share of the population of Alba Iulia, by confessions).*

3. The authors shall provide a list explaining the abbreviations they have used, unless they are common and obvious. The same goes for biblical abbreviations.

CLARIFICATIONS ON RESEARCH ETHICS AND PLAGIARISM PREVENTION

The studies/articles must be original, comply with the aspects related to intellectual property and anti-plagiarism rules. Plagiarism is the appropriation, total or partial copying of

ideas, works of another person presenting them as personal creations, committing a literary, artistic or scientific theft. Merriam-Webster defines plagiarism as follows: "To steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own; to use (another's production) without crediting the source" (https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiarizing).

Types of plagiarism:

1. **Full takeover** – The author presents entire passages from another work, word for word, as if this were his own creation.

2. **Partial copying** – The author copies significant parts of a work and presents them as if they were his own creation.

3. **Mixed copying** – The author copies paragraphs or mixed sentences from different works, without indicating the sources, in order to lose track of the original sources.

4. **Disguised copying** – The author takes the line of argument, examples, and other content elements of the source, but changes some phrases, paragraph order, or other elements to make it more difficult to identify the source.

5. **Copying by retelling** – The author retells the work, without taking over the content word for word, re-translating its content through synonyms or analogous formulations.

6. **Self-plagiarism** – The author takes all or bulk of his or her own, previous work, published in book or article format (classic or digital format).

7. **Incomplete citation** – The author mentions the name of the source, but does not include the specific information (title of the work, year, publisher, city, page); in this way the correctness of the translation cannot be verified and passages taken entirely before or after the first mention are hidden.

8. **Incorrect citation** – The author provides inaccurate information regarding the cited source, making it impossible to identify and verify it.

9. **Masked citation** – The author correctly cites the source in quotation marks, but then takes entire paragraphs from the source without putting quotation marks. Although he attributes a passage of his text to the source, he masks the fact that he has taken other passages from the same source without reference.

10. **Collage** – The author cites the sources correctly, but the entire text is nothing more than a collage from different sources, without any personal contribution from the author.

Texts from various works, including those translated by the author or taken from the Internet, can be reproduced exactly without being considered plagiarism, if they are written in quotation marks and have the precise reference of the source. Reformulating texts belonging to

other authors in their own words or summarizing their ideas without identifying the sources that generated them is considered plagiarism.

<div align="right">

Organizing Committee
ISSTA 2026

</div>