UPDATE OF THE PROGRAME – 12th November 2026

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
BRUSSELS - 19-20 NOVEMBER 2026
PROGRAM
The Values of the Holy Fathers in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: an Orthodox Christian Analysis of the Human Person, Children, and the Family Structure

ARRIVAL: Wednesday 18 November 2026

HOTEL: Hotel Park, Avenue de l'Yser 21, 1040 Etterbeek, Brussels

CONFERENCE VENUE: Orthodox Centre Ambiorix, Square Ambiorix 2, 1000 Brussels

DAY 1 – THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2026
Orthodox Center Ambiorix, Square Ambiorix 2, 1000 Brussels

8:30–09:00 – Registration & Welcome Coffee

09:00–10:15 – Opening Session

09:00-09:25 Welcome remarks
His Eminence Metropolitan Dr Athenagoras of Belgium, Exarch of the Netherlands and Luxembourg (CROCEU); Dr Elizabeta Kitanovic, CEO of FEL-HRI and IF20 Europe; and Revd. Prof. Dr Constantin Kenanidis, Dean of the Apostle Paul Institute of Orthodox Theology (Ecumenical Patriarchate)

09:25-09:45 Ecumenical perspectives on AI and Christian ethics
Contributions from General Secretary of COMECE - Fr Manuel Barrios Prieto (video message), Mr. Jonas Winkel - EKD, Canon Prof Dr Jack McDonald – Chaplain – President - Church of England (tbc), and the President of the G20 Interfaith Forum Prof Cole Durham (video messages)

09.45 - 10.15 Framing AI as an anthropological and spiritual challenge
Revd. Prof. Dr Gregory T. Stamkopoulos, Department of Education, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

10:15–11:45 Session I: Human Personhood, Dignity, and Moral Agency
Moderator: Revd. Prof. Dr Konstantin Kenanidis, Dean of the Apostle Paul Institute of Orthodox Theology (Ecumenical Patriarchate)

1. **Dignity and Moral Agency and AI** - H.E. Metropolitan Chrysostomos of Kyrenia, Church of Cyprus
2. **Human Dignity and the Image of God** – Rev. Prof. Dr Sorin Selaru (Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate)
3. **Between Resurrection and Simulation: Can AI Bring Back the Dead?" Griefbots, Military Bereavement and the Orthodox Christian Understanding of Death, Mourning and Hope** – Revd. Dr Pawel Cecha (Ecumenical Patriarchate)
4. **Who Speaks When Artificial Intelligence Speaks? A Biblical-Semiotic Approach to Personhood and Responsibility** – Rev. Dr Georges Vasilakis (Institute of Orthodox Theology Saint-Serge)

11:45–12: 00– Coffee Break

12:00–13:30 Session II: Red Lines and False Absolutes
Moderator: Revd. Prof. Dr Gregory T. Stamkopoulos, Department of Education, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

1. **Artificial Intelligence and False Divinization** – Drs Tijana Petkovic-Bertsch (Serbian Orthodox Church)
2. **Privacy and the Interior Life** – Dr Peter Petkoff (Law and Religion, Oxford College, UK)
3. **How can the spiritual discernment of the contemporary Holy Fathers guide us in facing the spiritual challenges posed by artificial intelligence?** – Fr. Razvan Andrei Ionescu (Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Saint Dumitru Stăniloae, Paris)

13:30–14:30 – Lunch

14:30–16:00 Session III: Children, Family, and the Interior Life
Moderator: Drs Tijana Petkovic (Serbian Orthodox Church)

1. **Protecting Children and the Vulnerable** – Revd. Prof. Dr Konstantinos Kenanidis, Dean of the Apostle Paul Theological Institute (Ecumenical Patriarchate)
2. **The Family as a Community of Formation** – PD. Dr. Habil. Ephräm Lomidze, Director of STEP, the Academic Centre for Oriental & Western Studies (Georgian Orthodox Patriarchate)
3. **Human Dignity, Children's Rights and Family Protection in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: A Legal Perspective Inspired by Orthodox Patristic Values** – Rev. Prof. Dr Emanuel Tavala (Romanian Orthodox Patriarchate)

16:00–16:15 – Coffee Break

16:15–17:45 Session IV: Work, Justice, and the Future of Humanity
Moderator: Revd. Drs. Pawel Cecha (Ecumenical Patriarchate)

1**. Work, Vocation, and Social Justice –** Rev. Dr. Dobromir Dimitrov (Bulgarian Orthodox Patriarchate)
2. **Human Enhancement and Transhumanism: Rethinking Human Self-Determination in the Light of Christian Anthropology –** Prof. Dr Julija Naett-Vidovic (Institute of Orthodox Theology Saint-Serge)
3. **Humane and Sustainable Futures of Orthodox Youth –** Drs. Tijana Petkovic-Bertsch (Serbian Orthodox Church)
4. **Beyond Robotics Standards and AI Regulation: Logos, *Tropos* and Human Embodiment –** Dr Sotiris Manitsaris - Research director on AI for Robotics

18.30 – Dinner - HOTEL PARK

DAY 2 – FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2026

09:00–10:30 Session V: Normative Convergence – Theology, Law, and AI Ethics
Moderator: Prof. Dr Julija Naett-Vidovic, Institute of Orthodox Theology Saint-Serge

1. **Generative Artifical Inteligence at an Accelerated Scale: Cognitive Displacment, Quasi-Subjectivity, and the Aesthetics of Simulation and Art –** Prof. Univ. Jan de Maere, PhD, Laboratory of Neurophysiology and Movement Mechanics, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium (video presentation)
2. **Protection of the Vulnerable: Pastoral Care in the Digital Age** – His Grace Bishop Dositheos (Patriarchate of Georgia) (FR)
3. **Beyond Fear: Hesychastic Wisdom and Christian Discernment in the Age of Artificial Intelligence** – Fr. Theophile Vitalis (on line/video presentation) (FR)
4. **AI & Les Saints Pères Silouane et Sophrony** - Évêque Syméon de Domodedovo (FR)
5. **AI& Construction of the Orthodox Churches and Temples –** Ms.Tijana and Mr. Marko Prodic – Architects (video)

10:30–11:00 – Coffee Break

11.00 –12:00 Session VI: From Scholarship to Church Leadership
Moderator: Dr Elizabeta Kitanovic, CEO of FEL-HRI & CEO of IF20 Europe

1. **Translating Ethics into Church Guidance –** Prof. Dr Julija Naett-Vidovic (Institute of Orthodox Theology Saint-Serge)
2. **Guidance on AI from the Orthodox Perspective –** Revd. Drs. Pawel Cecha (Ecumenical Patriarchate)

12:00–12:30 – **Concluding Session**
Adoption of core principles for the conference publication

Article submission deadline: to be confirmed. Institute of Orthodox Theology Saint-Serge Sergius Orthodox Theology Institute) & Drs. Tijana Petkovic-Bertsch (Serbian Orthodox Church)

12.30 – Lunch and departure