“Eastern Orthodoxy meets Protestantism in 19th century Greece”

This lecture aims to narrate and interpret some aspects of the Eastern Orthodox Christians’ encounter with the Protestant missionary groups in post-revolutionary Greek society. Firstly, it studies the religious and politico-economic factors which determined this global missionary venture in the Eastern Mediterranean region and particularly in the newly established Hellenic state. Secondly, it traces the educational, publishing, political and diplomatic methods these missionaries applied in order to intervene into the area. This quite unexpected encounter was embedded into a wider political, social and cultural context and was scheduled and accomplished at the exclusive initiative of the missions.

The lecture will further focus on the personalities of the missionaries, mostly of an elite background, and discuss orientalist traits in their approach of post-revolutionary Greece. Controversial reactions of the Orthodox communities as well as their local spirituality were also formative of the conversion strategies of the missions.

Lastly, an effort will be made to assess both this heterodox missionary intervention as well as its repercussions in the 20th century.

Ort: Institut für Byzantinistik und Neogräzistik der Universität Wien
1010 Wien, Postgasse 7, 1. Stiege, 3. Stock
Zeit: Dienstag, 21. Mai 2019, 18:30 Uhr

Anschließend wird zu einem Glas Wein gebeten! Eintritt frei.
Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen!