

## RELIGION AND RELATIONS AMONG CIVILIZATIONS, UNDER THE CONDITIONS OF GLOBALIZATION

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**Rezumat.** *Procesul globalizării, susținut de revoluția informațională și comunicațională, modifică toate condițiile existenței umane, extinzându-se asupra relațiilor tuturor marilor civilizații ale lumii contemporane. Apare și tendința identificării modernizării anumitor civilizații cu occidentalizarea lor, ceea ce conduce la o competitivitate sporită, dar și la conflicte mocnite. În acest joc, rolul religiei poate fi benefic – de acceptarea reciprocă și dialog – sau malefic – ca element de confruntare. Articolul pledează pentru preeminența dialogului și a cooperării între civilizații pe baza toleranței și a respectului reciproc între religii.*

**Abstract.** *The process of globalization boosted by the information revolution and communication modifies all the conditions of human existence. It is extended over the relationships among all the great civilizations of the contemporary world. They multiply and diversify their contacts. The tendency to identify the modernization of certain non-Western civilizations with a process of Westernization is the cause of the promotion of a spirit of competitiveness which is also conflict-ridden within the relationships among civilizations. What is the contribution of religion in the contacts among civilizations: mutual acceptance and dialogue or, on the contrary, an element of confrontation? The approach points at the conditions for the preeminence of dialogue and cooperation among civilizations through tolerance and mutual respect among religions.*

**Keywords:** information revolution, communication, dialogue

### 1. A few words about globalization

The human society evolves nowadays an intensive and comprehensive process of globalization. This process has as a background the revolution in the fields of informatics and communication. Under effects of that revolution, the World becomes, metaphoric speaking, smaller. The distances are compressed, the time flows more quickly.

The scientific research elaborates new and new ideas, transformed in more advanced technologies and techniques, in goods and services. In order to meet the avalanches of news, the education adapts itself rapidly and profoundly. As much as the people live in an information society, the education becomes a permanent activity.

The globalization changes dramatically not only the existential condition of the individuals, but those of the human communities, too. The interdependences

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