Dr Petre Maican

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Personal website
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specialisation:
Orthodox theology, disability theology, inclusion, deification, ecclesiology, ecumenism

Education and Qualifications

- 2016: Ph.D. in Systematic Theology University of Aberdeen, UK
- 2010: Masters in Systematic Theology, University of Bucharest Romania
- 2008: Bachelors degree in Theology, University of Bucharest

Biography

- 2025: Lecturer in Modern Orthodox Theology, Babe?-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania
- 2024–2025: Scientific Collaborator, Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, Radboud University, Netherlands
- 2022–2024: Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, Radboud University, Netherlands
- 2021–2022: Scientific Collaborator, UCLouvain, Belgium
- 2019–2021: Postdoctoral Research Fellow, UCLouvain, Belgium
- 2020: Guest Lecturer in Orthodox Theology, Greek Bible College, Athens, Greece
- 2018–2019: Teaching Fellow in Systematic Theology, University of Aberdeen, UK
- 2018–2019: Tutor in Philosophical Ethics, University of Aberdeen, UK2017: Teaching Fellow in Christian Ethics, University of Aberdeen, UK

Membership

- **The Higher Education Academy, UK / University of Aberdeen**
  Associate Fellow
- **European Academy of Religion**
  Ordinary Member
- **Society for the Scientific Study of Religion**
  Ordinary Member
- **Societas Oecumenica**
  Ordinary Member
- **International Orthodox Theological Association**
  Ordinary Member
- **The OPTIC Forum: The Human and the Speaking Machine**
  Ordinary Member

Selected Conferences

- 2025: *Charles University Prague*, Czechia – "Recovering from Trauma: Orthodox Spiritual and Theological Resources"

- 2024: *The Eastern European Institute of Theology*, Kiev, Ukraine – "Terrible Beauty: The Aesthetics of Disability and Friendship in Eastern Orthodoxy"
- 2023: *International Society for Science and Religion*, Swindon, UK – "Spiritual Intelligence and Intellectual Disability: A Theological Re-evaluation of the Nous"
- 2023: *International Orthodox Theological Association*, Volos, Greece – "An Anthropology of Neputinţei: A Romanian Orthodox Insight into Disability Theology"
- 2023: *European Academy of Religion*, Saint Andrews, UK – "Feasting on the Paradox of Holy Fools: Dostoevsky's Novels and Yannaras' Apophatic Ethics"
- 2021: *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Pittsburgh, US – "Disability East and West: A Romanian Perspective"
- 2021: *Charles University Prague*, Czechia – "Childhood and Disability: Theological Reflections"
- 2021: *European Academy of Religion*, Münster, Germany – "Eastern Orthodoxy and Disability"
- 2020: *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Pittsburgh, US – "Intellectual Disability, The Orthodox Church, and the Saint" *(Canceled)*
- 2020: *European Academy of Religion*, Bologna, Italy – "Vulnerability and Disability: Perspectives from East and West" *(Canceled)*
- 2019: *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion*, Saint Louis, US – "Human Perfection and Profound Intellectual Disability in Eastern Orthodoxy"
- 2019: *Society for the Study of Theology*, Warwick, UK – "An Eastern Orthodox Re-evaluation of the Impact of Filioque on Ecclesiology through the Lenses of Disability Theology"
- 2019: *Institute for Orthodox Christian Studies*, Cambridge, UK – "Human Perfection and Profound Cognitive Disability in Eastern Orthodoxy" *(Keynote speaker)*
- 2019: *European Academy of Religion*, Bologna, Italy – "Lay People in 21st Century Orthodox Christianity: Identity, Vocation, Challenges" *(Invited panelist)*
- 2019: *Volos Academy for Theological Studies*, Volos, Greece – "The Pneumatic Ecclesiology of Dumitru Stăniloae and the Gift of Persons with Disability for the Church" *(Plenary speaker)*
- 2019: *European Academy of Religion*, Bologna, Italy – "Dumitru Stăniloae's Encounter with the West" *(Panel organiser)*
- 2019: *International Orthodox Theological Association*, Ia?i, Romania – "Eastern Orthodoxy and Human Rights: A Christological Approach"
- 2018: *European Academy of Religion*, Bologna, Italy – "The Hermeneutics of Togetherness: Dumitru Stăniloae's Principles for Interpreting the Fathers in an Ecumenical Context"
- 2018: *Societas Oecumenica*, Mannheim, Germany – "Is Orthodox Nationalism an Impediment to Ecumenical Dialogue?" *(Invited speaker)*
- 2018: *Charles University Prague*, Czech Republic – "The Aesthetics of Holiness: Hans Urs von Balthasar's Anthropology for Eastern Orthodox Use" *(Invited speaker)*
- 2018: *The Institute for the Study of Culture and Christianity*, Belgrade, Serbia – "Giving the Laity its Voice Back: One Way to Tackle Fundamentalism in the Eastern Orthodox Church" *(Invited speaker)*
- 2018: *European Academy of Religion*, Bologna, Italy – "The Orthodox Tradition and the Imperative of Reform" *(Invited speaker)*
- 2017: *LEST XI, KU Leuven*, Leuven, Belgium – "Sensus Fidelium and the Reformation of the Church: An Eastern Orthodox Perspective"
- 2016: *Societas Oecumenica Biennial Conference*, Helsinki, Finland – "Why Ecumenical Dialogue Matters for Eastern Orthodoxy"
- 2016: *The Loyola Institute*, Dublin, Ireland – "The Eastern Orthodox Church: Back to Progress"
- 2015: *Society for the Study of Theology*, Nottingham, UK – "Open Sobornicity: An Eastern Orthodox Perspective on Ecumenism"
- 2014: *Society for the Study of Theology Postgraduate Conference*, Oxford, UK – "Angela of Foligno's Bodily Experience of the Mystical Union with God"

Teaching Activity

- **2025**: *Modern Orthodox Theology*, Babe?-Bolyai University, Cluj, Romania – Lectures and tutorials on contemporary Orthodox theology; assessed student work
- **2023**: *Introduction to Disability Theology*, Radboud University, Netherlands – Designed and delivered lectures and tutorials on disability in the Christian tradition; marked essays and exams
- **2023**: *Introduction to Philosophical Ethics*, Radboud University, Netherlands – Designed and led tutorials on philosophical ethics for two seminar groups
- **2023**: *The History of Christian Thought*, Radboud University, Netherlands – Designed and delivered lectures and tutorials on Christian doctrinal development (on campus and online); assessed essays and exams
- **2023**: *Introduction to Romanian Orthodoxy*, Radboud University, Netherlands – Designed and delivered a six-hour online module for undergraduates on Romanian Orthodox theology
- **2020**: *Guest Lectures in Orthodox Theology*, Greek Bible College, Athens, Greece

- **2018–2019**: *Exploring the Tradition of Christian Ethics*, University of Aberdeen, UK – Designed and delivered lectures and tutorials (on campus and online); assessed essays and exams
- **2018–2019**: *Introduction to Philosophical Ethics*, University of Aberdeen, UK – Led tutorials for two seminar groups
- **2018–2019**: *Introduction to Religious Myth*, University of Aberdeen, UK – Designed and led tutorials on the notion of myth for two seminar groups
- **2017**: *Teaching Fellow in Christian Ethics*, University of Aberdeen, UK
- **2016**: *Teaching Responsibilities (unspecified)*, University of Aberdeen, UK

Bibliography

Books:
- **2025 (October)**: *The Cross at the Heart of the Church: Study in Ecclesial Recognition*. Edinburgh: T&T Clark.
- **2025 (August)**: *Disability in the Greek Patristic Tradition*. Lexington.
- **2025 (April)**: *The Asceticism of Emotions: An Eastern Orthodox Approach to Inclusion*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- **2023**: *Deification and Modern Orthodox Theology: Introduction to Contemporary Debates*. Leiden: Brill.

Edited Journal Issues:
- **2021**: *"The Reception of the Orthodox Ecumenical Engagement in the West"*, co-edited with Justin Mihoc. *The Ecumenical Review* 73:1.
- **2021**: *"Vulnerability, Power, and Disability"*, co-edited with Talitha Cooreman. *Journal of Disability and Religion* 25:1.

Research Articles:
- **2025**: "Spiritual Intelligence and Dementia: A Theological Reevaluation of the Nous." *CPOSAT* 3: 174–191.
- **2024**: "Powerless in Christ: A Romanian Orthodox Insight into Disability Theology." *Journal of Disability and Religion* 28:2, 285–303.
- **2023**: "Teologia dizabilită?ii, drepturile omului ?i neosinteza patristică." In *Biserica ?i Statul*, 225–246.
- **2022**: "Stăniloae's Reading of Western Theological Traditions: A Re-evaluation." In *Tendances et directions dans les recherches actuelles...*, 223–236.
- **2022**: "Learning to Perceive: Grace and the Emotional Conundrum of Disability." *Modern Theology* 38:3, 535–547.
- **2022**: "The Care of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities in Romania: Between Politics and Theology." *Political Theology* 23:3, 201–214.
- **2022**: "Outlining an Inclusive Anthropological Ethics for Eastern Orthodoxy." *Scottish Journal of Theology* 75:1, 43–54.
- **2021**: "Vulnerability and Solidarity: An Improbable Connection." *Journal of Disability and Religion* 25:1, 55–67.
- **2020**: "Overcoming Exclusion in Eastern Orthodoxy: Human Dignity and Disability from a Christological Perspective." *Studies in Christian Ethics* 33:4, 496–509.
- **2019**: "Une Herméneutique Orthodoxe ?cuménique: Dumitru Stăniloae sur l'interprétation des P?res de l'Eglise dans un contexte ?cuménique." *Contacts* 71:2, 190–214.
- **2019**: "Hans Urs von Balthasar's Theology of Holiness for Eastern Orthodox Use." *Communio Viatorum* 61:2, 28–39.
- **2019**: "Through Sensus Fidelium to Deification: Listening to the Voice of the Laity in Eastern Orthodoxy." *Modern Theology* 35:2, 285–300.
- **2018**: "The Eastern Orthodox Church: Back to Progress." *Irish Theological Quarterly* 83:2, 1–15.

Proceedings:
- **2021**: "Perfec?iunea umană în teologia ortodoxă ?i implica?iile ei pentru îngrijirea persoanelor cu dizabilită?i intelectuale profunde." In *Polis and Paideia Conference Proceedings (2019)*, 197–206.
- **2020**: "The Ambiguity of Nationalism and Ecumenism: A Romanian Orthodox Account." In *Societas Oecumenica Leipzig*, 82–90.
- **2018**: "Why Ecumenical Dialogue Matters for Eastern Orthodoxy." In *Societas Oecumenica Helsinki*, 289–298.

Editorials:
- **2021**: "Theological Exchanges: The Ecumenical Reception of Orthodoxy," with Stephen G. Brown and Justin Mihoc. *The Ecumenical Review* 73:1, 1–7.
- **2021**: "Vulnerability and Solidarity," with Talitha Cooreman. *Journal of Disability and Religion* 25:1, 1–3.

Book Reviews:
- **2025**: *The Oxford Handbook of Deification*, eds. Paul L. Gavrilyuk, Andrew Hofer, O.P., and Matthew Levering. *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies*.
- **2024**: *Theological Perspectives on Reimagining Friendship and Disability* by Martina Vuk. *Journal of Disability and Religion* 29:1, 119-120.
- **2024**: *Sustaining Hope: Friendships and Intellectual Impairment* by David B. McEwan and Jim Good. *Journal of Disability and Religion* 28:1, 90–91.
- **2023**: *The Sophiology of Death* by Sergius Bulgakov. *Irish Theological Quarterly* 36:2, 410–413.
- **2022**: *Dumitru Stăniloae's Trinitarian Ecclesiology: Orthodoxy and the Filioque* by Viorel Coman. *Saint Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 66:3–4, 243–247.
- **2022**: *Discerning Persons: Profound Disability, the Early Church Fathers and the Concept of the Person in Bioethics* by Pia Matthews. *Journal of Disability and Religion* 26: 3, 327-328.
- **2022**: *Catéch?se et théologies du handicap* by Talitha Cooreman-Guittin. *Journal of Disability and Religion* 26:3, 323-324.

- **2021**: *La structure ontologique-communicationnelle de la personne* by Ciprian Apintiliesei. *Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses* 97:4, 714–715.
- **2021**: *Libertatea omului la Karl Barth, Emil Brunner ?i Rudolf Bultmann* by Mihai Iordache. *International Journal of Orthodox Theology* 12:3.
- **2018**: *Ecclesiology in the Trenches*, eds. Sune Fahlgren and Jonas Ideström. *Reviews in Religion and Theology* 25:1, 61–64.
- **2015**: *Balthasar: A (Very) Critical Introduction* by Karen Kilby. *Theology in Scotland* 22:1, 65–68.

Popularizing Work:
- **2024**: "Warum nicht? Zum Fehlen einer orthodoxen Theologie der Behinderung." *Religion & Gesellschaft in Ost und West* 9, 23–26.
- **2024**: "Trauma en het helende potentieel van aanbidding." *Platform Oosters Christendom* (August).
- **2023**: "Martyrs without Scars: Disability and The Iconographic Tradition." *The Wheel* 31–32, 33–38.
- **2023**: "Portret: Dumitru Stăniloae (1903–1993)." *Platform Oosters Christendom* (December).
- **2023**: *IOTA Conference Report*. *Platform Oosters Christendom* (February).
- **2022**: "Portret: André Scrima (1925–2000)." *Platform Oosters Christendom* (June).
- **2022**: "Persoane Suspendate: Notiunea de Persoana in Teologia Ortodoxa Moderna…" *Syntopic* (March); translated into Greek.
- **2021**: "The Sacrament of Adoption and the Orphan Crisis in Romania." *Public Orthodoxy* (May).
- **2020**: "Corona Virus, productivité et déficience intellectuelle profonde." *Institut RSCS, UCLouvain* (April).
- **2019**: "Image and Likeness and Profound Cognitive Disability." *Public Orthodoxy* (July).
- **2017**: "Is There Anything Orthodoxy Can Learn from the Reformation?" *The Wheel* 12, 78–80; translated into multiple languages.

Translations:
- **2020**: *For the Life of the World: Toward a Social Ethos of the Orthodox Church* (with Viorel Coman). Romanian translation: *Pentru via?a lumii*. Ratio et Revelatio.
- **2020**: David Bentley Hart, *Nor Height nor Depth: On The Toll Houses*. Romanian translation: *Nici înăl?imea, nici adâncul...*, *Analele Università?ii de Vest din Timi?oara*, 49–53.