

The Meeting of the Commission on Faith and Order at the Monastery of Caraiman, Busteni, Romania, 17-24 June 2015¹

DANIEL BUDA*

The first task of the Commission on Faith and Order meeting in Caraiman Monastery was to bring its members together in order to know each other and to discern what specific work will be done over the next seven or eight years, and to determine the specifics of how this work shall be carried out.

The meeting of the Commission was opened by Moderator's address, followed by formal greetings from His Beatitude Daniel, Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church presented by His Eminence Nifon of Targoviste. Archimandrite David Petrovici, the Abbot of the Monastery of Caraiman welcomed the Commission to his monastery, noting this marks an historic moment in the life of his monastic community. After introductions of the Commission members, the Moderator of the Commission, Dr. Susan Durber introduced the newly appointed Director of the Faith and Order Secretariat, Rev. Prof. Dr Odair Pedroso Mateus.

WCC General Secretary, Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit addressed the Commission, talking about the new beginnings in its history: new membership, newly appointed director and staff and new study themes which the Commissioners will be called to discern and select. He noted that prior to the commission meeting he met with the President of Romania, His Excellency Klaus Werner Johannis who expressed genuine interest in the work of the WCC in general and of Faith and Order in particular and in how the state and the Romanian churches and religious communities can work collaboratively for the common good of Romanian and European societies. He also met with His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel, who shared again his vision for the Romanian Orthodox Church and for church unity. WCC General Secretary invited the Commission to understand itself as a "fellowship of resources" - human, spiritual, theological - for the purpose of bringing all of us forward into deeper understanding and commitment to find new expressions of the

* Daniel Buda, Rev. PhD Associated Professor at the "Andrei Şaguna" Faculty of Orthodox Theology, "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, Romania; Programme Executive Coordinator for Church and Ecumenical Relations at WCC, Geneva. Contact details: WCC, Route de Ferney 150, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland; e-mail: daniel 77bde@yahoo.de.

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