



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

FORLILPSI

DIPARTIMENTO DI FORMAZIONE,
LINGUE, INTERCULTURA,
LETTERATURE E PSICOLOGIA

Florence, 22 December 2022

Dear members of the Bible Commission,

I am writing to you for our traditional end-of-year exchange of greetings, which this time is marked by a war that touches us so closely. This tragedy, however, can only increase the sense of solidarity and common purpose that should characterise our scientific community. Precisely in these difficult times, it is necessary to emphasise that we belong to a community that abhors any recourse to violence and oppression.

I am sure that we are all committed in our circles to defending and promoting these values, as we continue to work on the tradition of the Slavic Bible in Slavic languages, an object of study that by its very nature conveys a message of peace and hope for a better world.

I see that our scholarly activity continues with new publications and conferences, and I address everyone with the proposal to hold the next meeting of the Bible Commission during a seminar or conference, in the organisation of which you are involved. Of course, this would have to be a seminar or conference in some way related to biblical topics and which, unfortunately, we would once again have to meet at a distance, apart perhaps from people who can reach the seminar or conference venue without difficulty. We would thus be able to continue our activities even in this year when the International Congress of Slavists in Paris was planned, which has been postponed to 2025.

On the Congress, I will submit my resignation from the chairmanship of the Biblical Commission, which I have already headed since 2013. In 2025 it will be 12 years, which is an extremely long time, especially for me who firmly believes in the need for a constant change of positions to revitalise and energise the academic bodies.

I extend to all of you and your loved ones my warmest wishes for the approaching holidays,

Kindest regards,
Your Marcello Garzaniti