



PRESS RELEASE 27 MARCH 2017

Latest book of the European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups on LGBT inclusion in Eastern Orthodoxy now available to buy on Amazon

The European Forum of LGBT Christian Groups (European Forum) is very happy to present its newest publication, *“For I Am Wonderfully Made”*: *Texts on Eastern Orthodoxy and LGBT Inclusion*, which is now available to buy in paperback format on Amazon.

First collection of affirmative Orthodox theology texts

The book, published at the beginning of 2017 and edited by the members of the Orthodoxy Working Group of the European Forum Misha Cherniak, Olga Gerassimenko, and Michael Brinkschroeder, comprises a collection of essays by theologians, clergy, activists, and scholars which explore the situation of LGBT people in the Orthodox Church.

“It has been the intuition of many Orthodox thinkers and activists that Orthodox theology in its essence, and if unearthed from various historical layers, is in fact very welcoming to LGBT people and same-sex relations,” says Misha Cherniak. “In this book we set out in search of this affirmative discourse within the Orthodox tradition.”

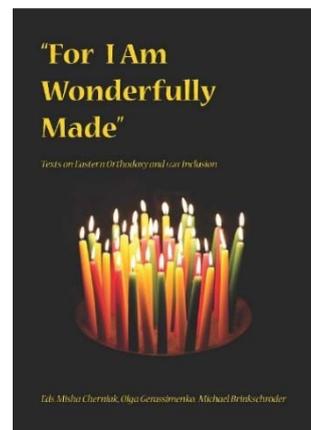
Reality and dignity of Orthodox LGBT people

LGBT people of Orthodox faith often face exclusion from parish life, conversion therapy, forced marriages or monastic life, denial of communion, and even physical violence. Many turn away from God or the church; some take their own lives.

Against the backdrop of these difficult and disheartening circumstances, the book aims to offer an affirming message, urging LGBT Orthodox people to proclaim with the psalmist: “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made!” (Psalm 139:14). The European Forum is very proud to have been so actively involved in its creation, and we hope it will be of interest to all and bring comfort to many readers.

Availability and translations

To purchase a copy on Amazon, [click here](#). Russian and Greek translations of the book will follow in late 2017, early 2018. If you wish to discuss obtaining a copy for review or if you have any questions about the book, or the work of the Orthodoxy Working Group in general, please do not hesitate to contact us at project@euroforumlgbtchristians.eu.



The *European Forum of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Christian Groups* is an ecumenical association of LGBT Christian groups in Europe. The European Forum aims to achieve equality and inclusion for LGBT people within and through Christian churches and other religious bodies and multilateral organisations. With over 50 member groups from more than 20 countries in Europe, the European Forum works for freedom of religion for LGBT people, for human rights, for the dignity of LGBT people and for an affirmative discourse on human sexuality.

Not for publication: if you have any questions concerning the European Forum, please contact our Communications Officer Sadie Hale, communications@euroforumlgbtchristians.eu, or Co-President Wielie Elhorst, presidents@euroforumlgbtchristians.eu.