**RULES AND REGULATIONS**

*For the Research Contest for young scientists*

***"Faith and Religion in Contemporary Russia"***

The discussion about the role of faith and religion, and their impact on social processes and social life, has become particularly relevant in recent years. What topics attract the attention of young scientists? How do they explain the various phenomena of spiritual and religious life of modern Russia? In order to answer these questions, the organization "Sreda" announces the Research Contest for young scientists: "Faith and Religion in Contemporary Russia."

**Purpose:**

The expansion of scientific reflection on matters of faith and religion in Russia

**Objectives:**

• To draw attention to new and interesting scientific papers on this topic

• To identify promising new areas of research while conducting field work, and new approaches towards data analysis

• To develop a network of contacts with research organizations and individual researchers interested in questions of faith and religion in contemporary Russia

• To encourage talented young scientists and participate in the formation of the new generation of researchers

We accept papers **from the following topics**:

• Orthodox religion in Russia

• Non-Orthodox religions in Russia

• New forms of religious and non-religious spirituality in Russia

Comparative and interdisciplinary research is welcomed.

**Prizes**

The Contest includes 3 prizes of 30,000 rubles and 5 prizes of 10,000 rubles.

The best works will be published in a thematic and illustrated collection.

The best authors will be invited to collaborate with "Sreda".

You and your work will attract the attention of the Contest’s media partners.

An annotation of the paper (and with the consent of the author - the complete paper) will be published on the website of the contest’s organizer, and the work will be part of a larger project called ARENA: Atlas of Religions and Nationalities in Russia.

**Conditions of the Contest:**

Students, undergraduates, masters, graduate students, and graduates from Russian universities under the age of 33 years at the start of the contest, are invited to participate in the Contest.

The works submitted to the Contest must apply to the spiritual and religious life of modern Russia. Research can be conducted from the perspective of various social and humanitarian disciplines (sociology, ethnography, philology, anthropology, religious studies, history, folklore studies, cultural studies, etc.). All entries must be based on specific field materials (the results of questionnaires, interviews, focus groups, observation, ethnographic field materials, analysis of images and texts, including mass media, the blogosphere, the materials published by religious organizations, etc.). It would be best if your paper is written so that it can be understood by a wide audience.

To participate in the Contest, works must be written after 2010, in Russian, never have been published before, and are not, at the time of submission to the Contest, being considered for publication. Both individual and collaborative papers are accepted for the contest. If the paper is written in collaboration, the prize will be divided equally among all authors.

Papers are accepted in electronic form for the Contest. Papers are limited to 14,000-15,000 characters (including spaces), not including the bibliography. The structure of the paper should include: research methods, the materials on which it is based, the main body of content, the main conclusions, and the bibliography. Illustrative materials should be attached as a separate file.

The best papers will be determined by the members of an expert jury. In assessing the paper, they will take into account the following criteria:

• If it is an interesting concept, and has a logical implementation of the research

• The logic behind the problems presented, the research undertaken, and the discoveries made

• The boldness and creativity in addressing the raised topics

• The presence of illustrative material (photographs, graphics, info-graphics, etc.)

**Copyright**

By submitting an application to participate in the contest, the Participant warrants that they: (1) agree to the terms of contest; (2) do not infringe on the intellectual property of third parties; (3) do not claim confidentiality for materials presented in the paper; (4) transfer the right for non-commercial use to the Contest’s organizer.

The works will be checked in the "Antiplagiat" system for the enforcement of copyright. For papers submitted to the Contest, the proportion borrowed from other sources should not exceed 20%.

All papers submitted to the Contest will not be returned orreviewed**.**

**List of documents**

To participate in the contest, you must submit the following documents:

• The text of the paper

• Participant application form for the contest (see **appendix**)

• A photograph of the participant (optional)

• Annotation of the paper (no more than 1 page), which should include the main contents of the study and its conclusions. It will represent your paper on the site.

• It would be preferred if you provide the contact information of an advisor and his/her review of the work in the free form (no more than 1 page). The review must be certified with the advisor’s signature, and the seal of their educational institution or research organization. If the work is among the semi-finalists, the Contest organizers may refer to the advisor in regard to the received paper.

Please send all documents to the address: science@sreda.org by October 15, 2013

**Stages and deadlines of the Contest**

June 1 - October 15, 2013 – Entries are accepted

October 16 – 31, 2013 – Contest semi-finalists are selected

November 1-14, 2013 - Contest finalists are selected

November 18, 2013 - Announcement of the best papers that will be published in the Contest’s collection

December 18, 2013 - The ceremonial announcement in Moscow of the winners and the presentation of the collection of the best research papers by young scientists.

**The Contest’s Founder**: The nonprofit research organization "Sreda"

**Contact Information:**

Contest coordinator: Ksenia Medvedeva

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**Detailed information** about the contest and a list of papers submitted to the contest are available on the official website of the non-profit research organization "Sreda" in the contest section (<http://sreda.org/science>), as well as on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/sreda.org>) and vk.com (<http://vk.com/sreda_org>)