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Studies in the History of Philosophy
Institute of Philosophy, UMK, Poland
<https://apcz.umk.pl/szhf/>

April 14, 2022

Dear Professor Kupś:

We are responding to your decision to cancel a thematic issue of *Studies in the History of Philosophy* devoted to Russian religious philosophy. Your announcement states that the issue has been canceled because “there is a danger that the presentation of the achievements of Russian religious thinkers of the 19th and 20th centuries may also be used for propaganda purposes.” *

We oppose this decision for two reasons. First, *if* —hypothetically — the achievements of Russian religious thinkers are “a danger,” this is all the more reason to study and discuss them. We believe that philosophy and religion thrive on ideas that are deemed to be dangerous.

Second, Russian thought and culture are instrumental to our teaching, our writing, our art and our philosophy. Nikolai Berdyaev, Leo Tolstoy, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Alexandra Exter, Natalia Goncharova — these and countless others have inspired and enlightened us. Irrespective of recent events, we love and admire the people of Russia, their culture, and their achievements — no amount of suppression or censorship will change this. We ask you to reconsider your decision. Fear and enmity, and the blindness that springs from them, are the real dangers. We believe it is wrong to capitulate to those who wish to silence us.

cc:

Dr hab. prof. UMK Krzysztof Paweł Wawrzonkowski, Assistant Editor
Prof. Javier Zamora Bonilla, Editor
Dr Justyna Czekajewska, Editor
Ph.D. Dalius Viliūnas, Editor
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Mirosław Żelazny, Advisory Board Chairman
prof. Radosław Sojak, Dean of Faculty

Yours truly,

Anthony Michael Pasqualoni, *Sacred Heart University, Philosophy*

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* [Statement](https://apcz.umk.pl/szhf/announcement/view/159) posted March 2, 2022 (<https://apcz.umk.pl/szhf/announcement/view/159>). It should be noted that this statement contradicts the journal's ethical standards (see [1. EDITOR'S DUTIES](https://apcz.umk.pl/szhf/about) at <https://apcz.umk.pl/szhf/about>).