## First International Scientific Workshop of the Mount Athos Centre

Over the course of its fifteen-year existence, the Mount Athos Centre has organised ten international scientific conferences covering a broad range of subjects related to the more than onethousand-year-old historv and spirituality of Athonite monasticism. Furthermore, specialised subjects have been covered also including architecture, travellers' accounts, Athonite scholarship, Dependencies of Athos (Metochia) and so on. More than 300 scientific papers have been presented by Greek and foreign conferences, speakers at these providing valuable new insights into the history and life of the Monastic State.

From this year, the Mount Athos Centre is launching a new format to promote and present of the scientific and research work of Mount Athos, that of the international scientific workshop. The aim of this new approach, in conjunction with presenting original findings and syntheses from scientific research, is to showcase the discourse and the first results of new individual research as well as collective research programmes which are still under way.

Thus, an opportunity is provided to the members of the academic community not only to publish the findings of their research, but also to reveal the first or ongoing stages of their individual or collective activities, by presenting at the

time their first (and not same necessarily their last) research findings. The main objective of the international scientific workshops is to develop a fruitful and real dialogue, which will enrich and broaden the discourse on research, to therefore contribute to its more comprehensive completion. It goes without saying that the subjectthe papers matter of and/or presentations will relate directly to Mount Athos (e.g. history, art, theology, law, institutions, philology, archaeology, history, architecture, natural art environment, other visual arts, art restoration, etc.).

The international scientific workshops will be organised on an annual basis and will not have a specific theme as have had the international conferences of the past, unless that is the proposals submitted form in themselves a single thematic whole.

The First Scientific Workshop will take place on Friday 9 – Saturday 10 of December 2016 in Thessaloniki. Each paper will be 20 minutes in length which will be immediately followed by a 10minute discussion on the topic. The First International Scientific Workshop will have a total number of papers not exceeding 15.

The Scientific Committee of the First International Scientific Workshop