

## Summary

**Subject matter:** The Russian state and orthodoxy: the influence of orthodoxy on the formation of the Russian state.

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**Customer organization:** Pyatigorsk and Cherchesk eparchy.

**Topicality of the research:** During the whole period of Russia's development the relations between the church and the state were characterized by controversy. All the time the authorities and the church exhibited the note of rivalry and open confrontation which expressed itself in the desire of the church authorities to subordinate the state power and vice versa the struggle of the state to get out of the control of the church. Religion in the modern Russian society is occupying a more and more important position. The activities of the religious associations embrace a wide range of social relations: spiritual, cultural, legal, economic and political.

**Objective of the research** is a complex exploration of the interrelations between the Russian Orthodox Church and the state, and also the discovery of the role of orthodoxy in the history of Russia.

### **Tasks of the research:**

- To investigate the formation and the development of orthodoxy in the Russian state;
- To discover the historical factors that exercised substantial influence on the development of the relations between the church and the state;
- To examine the causes of the spiritual crisis in the 20<sup>th</sup> century;
- To determine the importance of orthodoxy in the origin of the traditional society and statehood in Russia;

- To analyze the forms and prospects of the socio-political participation of the Russian Orthodox Church in the modern social process.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research** is that the findings and results made in the work will enable one to fill up the existing gaps both at the international level and in the domestic legislations of many countries. The results can be used for the creation of the normative-legal acts that regulate the issues of the confessional relations in Russia

**Conclusions:** the character of the modern relations between the church and the state is rather complicated and peculiar. In the course of this research we found out that the church is separated from the state but it is not separated from the society with which it is connected by the common spiritual, moral and cultural life. It exercises powerful influence on the people's minds and behavior, it is a powerful stabilization factor.

**Recommendations:** there is a need for the creation of the information-enquiry system containing a single database connected with the information about the religious situation, the realization of the rights of the believers and the legal services provided in the regions which will help identify the cases of the restrictions of the rights and freedoms of believers and non-believers and react rightly to them and the analysis of the material for the purpose of working out some practical proposals for the administrative bodies willinevitable lead to the need to submit proposals to the legislative bodies.