

Editorial to the first issue

With this first issue of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* (中國宗教評論) the China-Zentrum presents a new e-journal. Like the German language journal of the China-Zentrum, *China heute. Informationen über Religion und Christentum im chinesischen Raum*, now in its 30th year, it will be published four times a year. The new English language publication has been initiated within the context of a further “internationalization” of the China-Zentrum (China Center), located in Sankt Augustin, Germany, with Catholic member organizations in several European countries.

Already for a number of years we have been requested from many sides to provide parts of *China heute* with its analyses also in English. *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* will thus contain English translations of main articles published in *China heute* as well as original contributions on relevant topics. The new journal furthermore functions as a kind of continuation of *European Ecumenical China Communication* which has been published in the China-Zentrum since 1992, comprising documentation of various European Ecumenical and Catholic China meetings and conferences.

The first issue of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* has its focus on the 8th European Catholic China Colloquium which was held in Freising in September 2010, on the topic “Chinese in Europe – Trends and Catholic Perspectives.” More keynote lectures of this Colloquium will be published in the next issues. In addition, this issue includes News Updates and Statistics which give an insight into recent events and general trends with regard to religions and especially Christianity in today's China.

Religions & Christianity in Today's China is freely available on the website of the China-Zentrum, www.china-zentrum.de. Additionally, readers who subscribe to *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* will regularly receive e-mail updates providing web links to the contents of each newly published issue.

We hope that the journal catches your attention and that you will participate with us in this new endeavor. The China-Zentrum is a non-profit organization. For the publication of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* we are dependent on the generosity of our friends and readers. In order to help us cover inevitable costs, we would be very grateful if you could consider sending in a voluntary contribution.

Sankt Augustin, July 2011

The Editors