

Editorial

Today we would like to present to our readers the fourth 2014 issue of *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* (中國宗教評論). As in previous issues, it includes the regular series of News Updates with an insight into recent events and general trends with regard to religions and especially Christianity in today's China.

Furthermore with three contributions this issue highlights facets of the problems and challenges of social security in present day Chinese society. They are the talks given at the 14th Annual Academy of the China-Zentrum on April 10, 2014.

Prof. Dr. Barbara Darimont, lecturer at the East Asian Institute of Ludwigshafen University, in her article "Social Security in the P.R. China Exemplified by Urban and Rural Health Insurance," after an introduction to Chinese social policy, gives concrete examples and figures of the latest developments in this field. She shows that the development of the health care system will remain a cornerstone for social stability. Renée Rentke, project officer at Misereor for development cooperation with China, Mongolia and North Korea, in her contribution "Between Greed for Gain and Altruism – Concrete Examples of Social Security in Rural Areas" describes with representative cases the effects of insufficiencies in the health system and the welfare for aged individuals, however, also giving a promising example of a project with volunteers helping elderly people in the villages. Finally, Fr. Paul Li Haiyan from Hongdong Diocese/Shanxi shows "How the Social Systems Impact the Church (Especially the Priests and Sisters) Using Hongdong Diocese as an Example."

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Sankt Augustin, November 2014

The Editors