

Editorial

Dear Readers,

Today we can present to you the first issue 2017 of our online journal *Religions & Christianity in Today's China* (中國宗教評論).

This number as usual includes the regular series of News Updates on events and general trends in the field of religions and especially Christianity in today's China.

You can furthermore find a report by Dominic Niu (Beijing) on “The Sixth Conference on the Role and Influence of Christianity in Contemporary Chinese Society” which was held from November 22–23, 2016 at Renmin University in Beijing.

In his very interesting article “*Manuale missionariorum*: Manual for Evangelization in the Apostolic Vicariate of South Shandong,” Prof. Dr. Karl Josef Rivinius SVD (Sankt Augustin/Germany) describes the challenges the first Divine Word Missionaries (SVD) met in South Shandong in the end of the 19th century and the then newly compiled handbook *Manuale missionariorum* which served as the mandatory framework for their mission work.

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.

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 a voluntary contribution.

Sankt Augustin, March 2017

The Editors